DARK HORSE COMICS

Manga

OH MY GODDESS! VIII

CHILDHOOD'S END 1 OF 2

$3.50 US $5.25 CAN

40 PAGES

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA'S

Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

Childhood's End

STUDIO PROTEUS

DIRECT SALES

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Childhood's End
1 of 2

Oh My Goddess! part 8

story and art by
KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

translated by
DANA LEWIS and TOREN SMITH

lettering and re-touch by
SUSIE LEE and PC ORZ

cover by
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designer
AMY ARENDTS

editor
MIKE HANSEN

publisher
MIKE RICHARDSON

English version produced by Studio Proteus for Dark Horse Comics, Inc.

Keiichi Morisato

Nekomi Tech student who dialed a wrong number and unwittingly summoned the goddess Belldandy.

Belldandy

Goddess First Class (Unlimited)
Very loving, very kind

Urd

Goddess Second Class (Limited)
Belldandy's big sister. Very sexy, very naughty

Skuld

Goddess Second Class (Limited)
Belldandy's little sister. Very smart, slightly bratty

The Almighty

Almighty

The story so far:
In order to teach Skuld to be more self-reliant, Belldandy refuses to use her goddess powers to help Skuld learn to ride a bicycle

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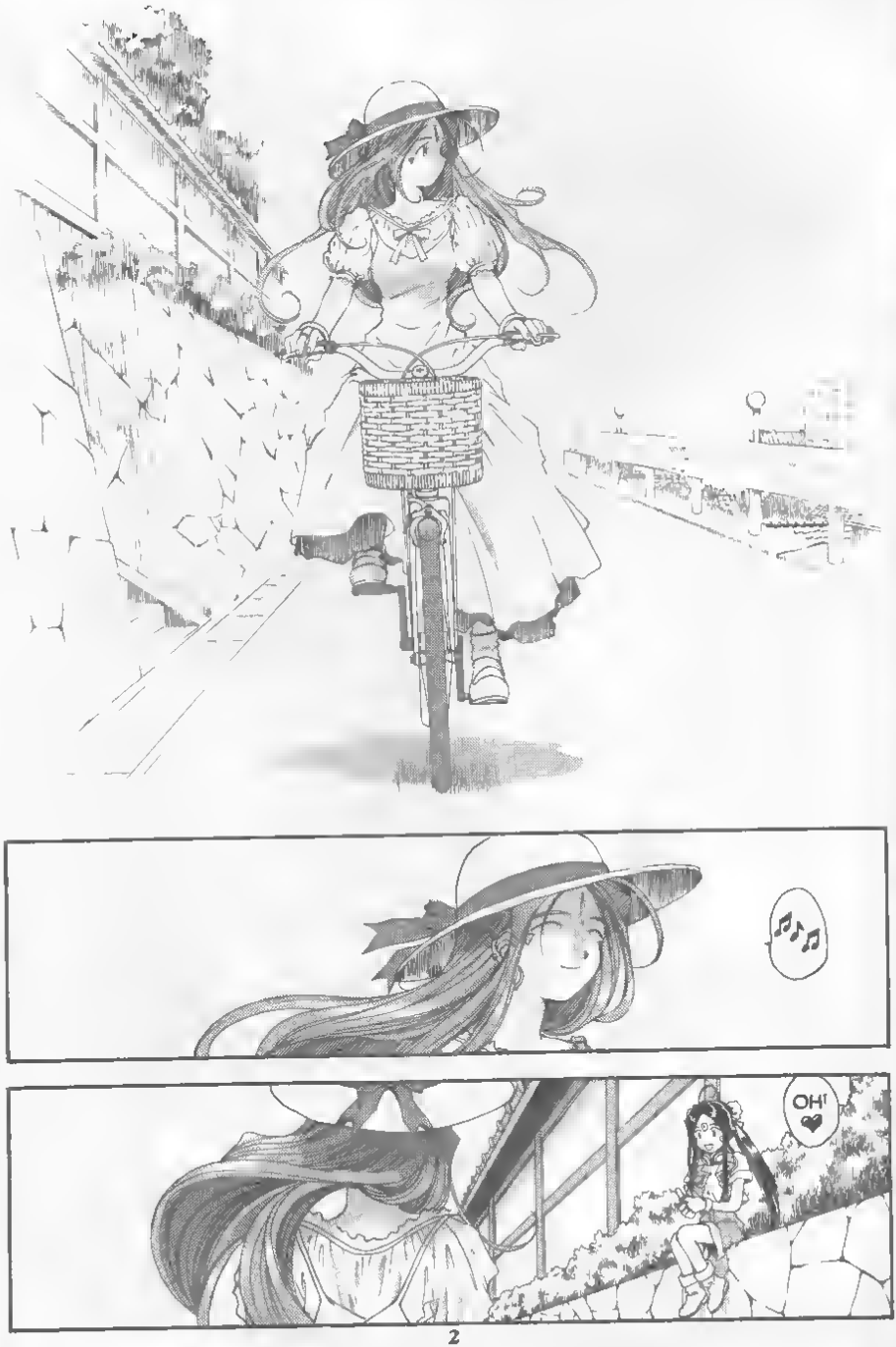
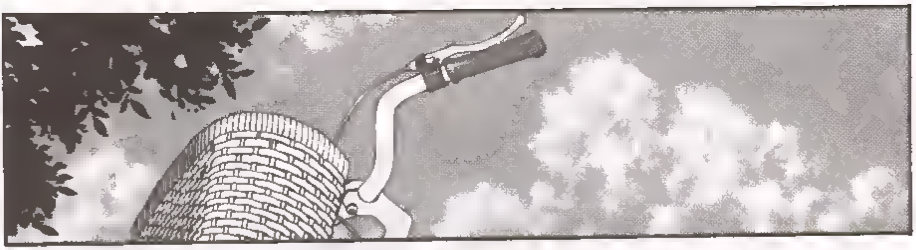
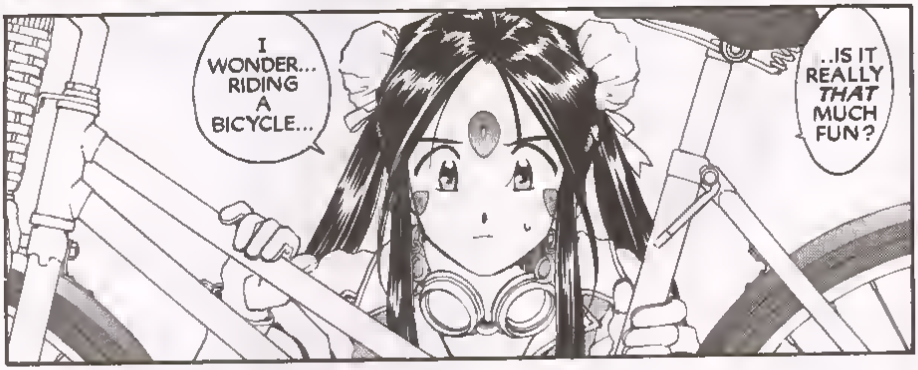
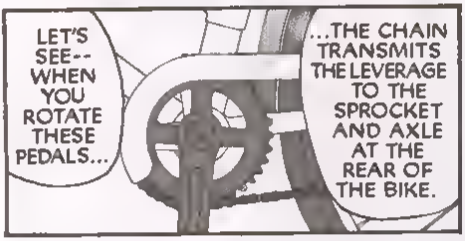
Childhood's End

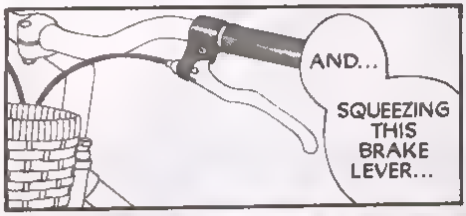

♫♪♫
OH!

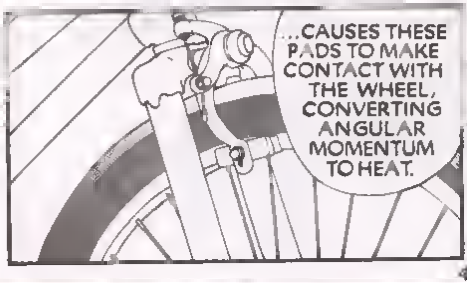
HEY, SIS!
HOW WAS YOUR TRIP?
GREAT, SKULD!
I BROUGHT BACK SOME ICE CREAM FOR YOU!
YAHOO!
BELLDANDY... YOU LOOK SO HAPPY.
....
...




I WONDER... RIDING A BICYCLE...
..IS IT REALLY *THAT* MUCH FUN?

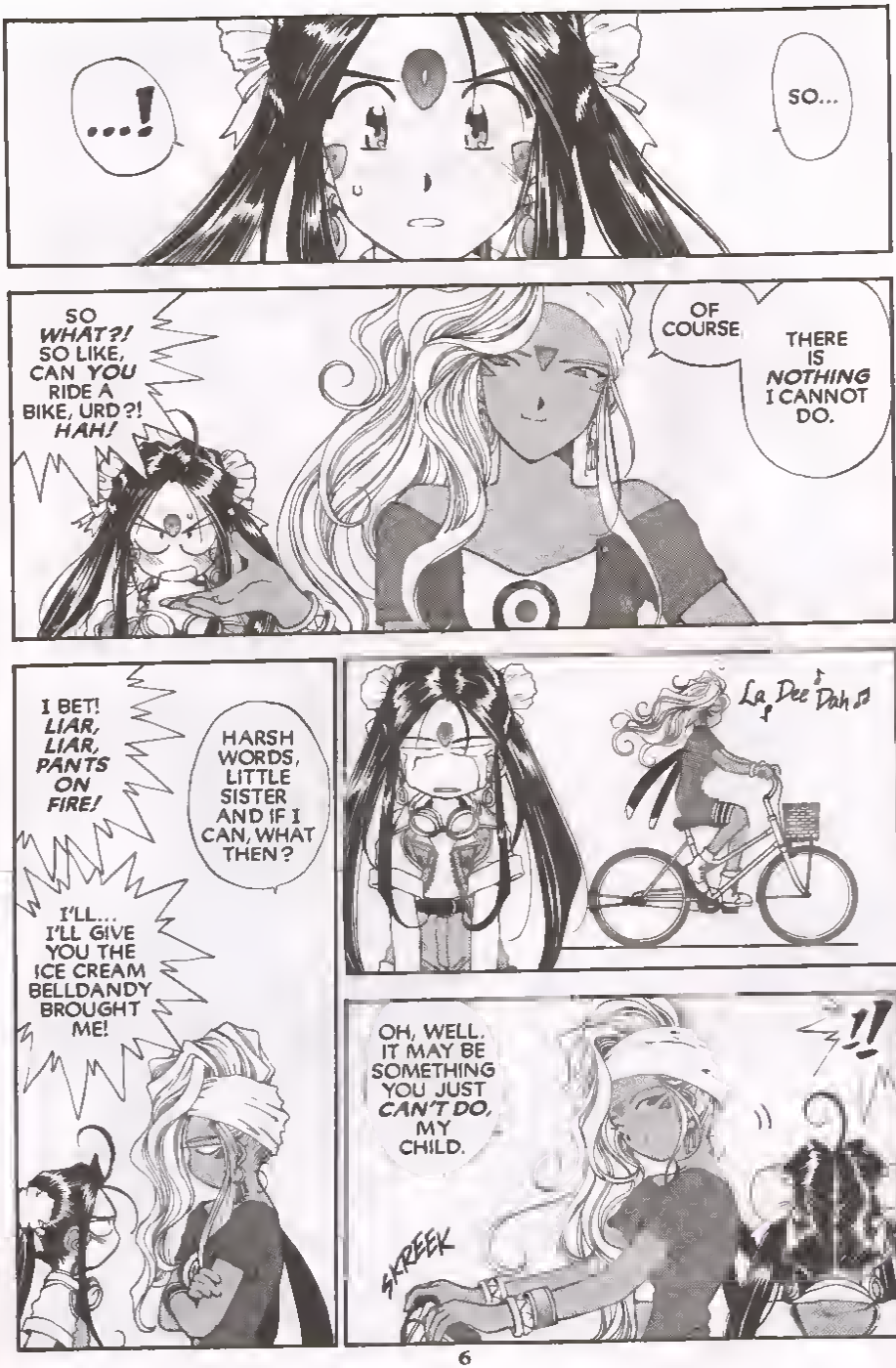

LET'S SEE-- WHEN YOU ROTATE THESE PEDALS...
...THE CHAIN TRANSMITS THE LEVERAGE TO THE SPROCKET AND AXLE AT THE REAR OF THE BIKE.


AND...
SQUEEZING THIS BRAKE LEVER...


...CAUSES THESE PADS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE WHEEL, CONVERTING ANGULAR MOMENTUM TO HEAT.

NO SHOCK ABSORBERS, BUT IN THEIR PLACE, AIR-BLADDER TIRES AND A SPRING SUSPENSION FOR THE SEAT.
I WONDER WHY THE FRAME ISN'T MORE PERFECTLY TRIANGULAR? STRANGE
NOW, *THIS* JOINT COULD USE SOME IMPROVEMENT.
HMM. EXTREME SIMPLICITY, YET STRANGELY LOGICAL.

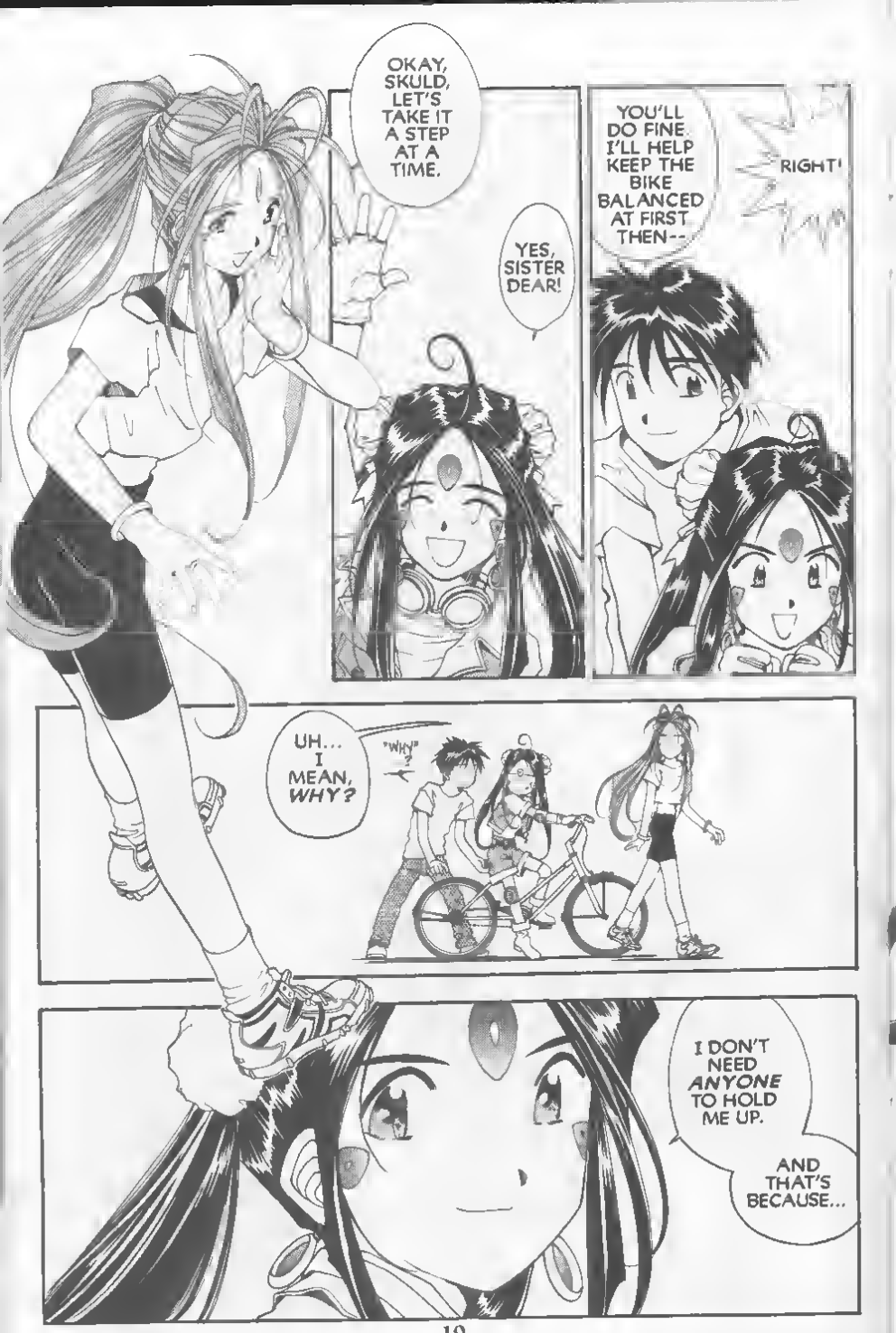
YOU WANNA TRY A RIDE?
A RI--?!
NO! I ABSO-LUTELY DO NOT WANT A RIDE!
I.. I WAS MERELY EXAMINING A TECHNO-LOGICAL ARTIFACT!
AH I SEE
TEE HEE
GEEZ EVEN BELL-CANDY THINKS I'M
OH, I QUITE UNDER-STAND, DEAR.
AFTER ALL, YOU DON'T KNOW HOW... DO YOU?


...!
SO...
SO WHAT?! SO LIKE, CAN YOU RIDE A BIKE, URD?! HAH!
OF COURSE
THERE IS NOTHING I CANNOT DO.
I BET! LIAR, LIAR, PANTS ON FIRE!
HARSH WORDS, LITTLE SISTER AND IF I CAN, WHAT THEN?
I'LL... I'LL GIVE YOU THE ICE CREAM BELLDANDY BROUGHT ME!
La Dee Dah
OH, WELL. IT MAY BE SOMETHING YOU JUST CAN'T DO, MY CHILD.
!!
SKREEK

I CAN *TOO!* A DUMB OLD THING LIKE THAT! I BETCHA *ANYTHING!*
OH, *REALLY.*
IN THAT CASE...
IF YOU CAN'T DO IT, YOU GOTTA...
...RIDE AROUND THE WHOLE NEIGHBOR-HOOD THREE TIMES--ON A TRICYCLE!
OH NO, NO *NO!* SHE GOT ME AGAIN!
TRAPPED! LIKE A *RAT!*
AW, IT'S OKAY, SKULD. IF YOU PRACTICE A BIT, YOU CAN DO IT, NO PROB!
THAT'S EASY FOR *YOU* TO SAY-- YOU CAN ALREADY DO IT.
BUT MY WHOLE *FUTURE* DEPENDS ON IT!

I'D LOVE TO BE ABLE TO GO ON RIDES TOGETHER WITH YOU, SKULD.
I'D BE GLAD TO HELP YOU LEARN, TOO!
OH, YES, MY DEAR WONDERFUL SWEET BIG SISTER!
HEY. WHAT ABOUT ME?
IF BELL-DANDY'S GONNA HELP ME I'VE NOTHING TO FEAR!
IT'S A DONE DEAL!
BWA HAW HAW HAW!
I DON'T MUCH LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT...

HAH!
YOU'RE DOOMED, URD!
AFTER I LEARN TO RIDE THIS THING, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TRY TO RIDE SOMETHING I PICK!!
♫..
I WASN'T ACTUALLY BEING SERIOUS, BUT...
IF SHE CAN'T DO IT, WILL SHE REALLY PEDAL AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD THREE TIMES? ON A TRIKE?


OKAY, SKULD, LET'S TAKE IT A STEP AT A TIME.
YES, SISTER DEAR!
YOU'LL DO FINE. I'LL HELP KEEP THE BIKE BALANCED AT FIRST. THEN--
RIGHT!
UH... I MEAN, WHY?
"WHY"?
I DON'T NEED ANYONE TO HOLD ME UP.
AND THAT'S BECAUSE...

...I'M A GENIUS!
WHOA!
OOP
WHOOP! YEEP! AAH!
OH, NO! SHE'S GONNA CRASH!
TAA-DAA! THE SKULD SPECIAL ACTIVE BALANCER KNEE-PAD!
I TOLD YOU I DIDN'T NEED HELP!
SSSHHHT

YOW!
OH, GEEZ...!
FSSHT
FSSHT
FSSHT
HELLLP!! SOMEONE STOP ME!!
=hahh=
=hahh=
OKAY, OKAY! APPARENTLY THEY'RE NOT QUITE APPROPRIATE FOR THIS SITUATION.
WAIT! I KNOW! I JUST HAVE TO ADD OUTRIGGER WHEELS!
GOOD IDEA! LIKE ONE OF THOSE KID'S BIKES!
dmg-a-dmgg
K-KID'S BIKES?
WELL YEAH

HEH, HEH, HEH!
NOW WHATCHA DOING?
JUST WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.
I'M INSTALLING A GYRO-SCOPE FOR AN AUTO-BALANCER SYSTEM.
WHY ON EARTH DIDN'T I THINK OF IT BEFORE ..?
HMM .. THOSE HILLS COULD BE TOUGH.
BETTER ADD A MOTOR, TOO.
DO ALL THAT STUFF, AND IT WON'T EVEN BE A BICYCLE ANY MORE!
HE'S RIGHT, SKULD.
BICYCLES ARE FUN *BECAUSE* OF THE WAY THEY ARE.

ON A BICYCLE YOU CONVERSE WITH THE WIND
SOMETIMES SWIRLING ABOUT YOU SOMETIMES SLIPPING PLACIDLY BY.
"AS YOU PASS FROM THE WARM SUN INTO THE COOL SHADE...
"...YOU CAN FEEL THE VERY DENSITY OF THE AIR CHANGE
"THE FLOW OF GREEN LEAVES, THE SKY AND THE CLOUDS, ENFOLDING YOU IN THE WORLD AROUND YOU...
"ALL A DIALOGUE THAT BEGINS WITH THE POWER OF YOUR OWN BODY."

AND THAT'S WHY I *ADORE* RIDING MY BICYCLE.
OOO
OOOOHH!!
YES!!
BELLDANDY, I'LL DO *ANYTHING* TO FEEL THAT WAY!!
WHOA SHE EVEN GOT ME WITH THAT!
GOOD! THEN LET'S GIVE IT ANOTHER TRY!
WHAT'RE YOU STANDING AROUND FOR, KEIICHI!?!
C'MON, YOU GOTTA HOLD THE BIKE FOR ME, OKAY?!
OKAY, OKAY.

EEK! WHAT ARE YOU DOING BACK THERE?!
THERE'S NO PLACE ELSE TO PUSH, SKULD!
KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE ROAD!
JUST WATCH YOUR HANDS, BUSTER!
OKAY, PEDAL NOW! LIGHTLY!
RRRG!
LIGHTER! LIGHTER!
GOOD, GOOD! DOING GOOD!

RIGHT ABOUT NOW ...?
WHOA
OOP
HERE WE GO...
AH!
AHH!!
SIS ...!!
BELL-DANDY ...?! HELP ME!

EEK!
SHE... SHE DIDN'T HELP ME...?
BELL-DANDY DIDN'T...
SKULD! YOU OKAY?!
OH, GOOD! YOU'RE NOT HURT.
HERE-- LET'S TRY IT ONE MORE TIME.

O-OKAY.
NO... NO, I MUST HAVE JUST BEEN IMAGINING THINGS.
SORRY, SORRY! GUESS I LET GO TOO SOON.
OH, GEEZ... I HOPE SHE DOESN'T CRY!
THIS TIME HOLD THE BIKE *RIGHT*, PLEASE!
?
KEIICHI ...?
OKAY!
THAT'S WHAT I WAS THINKING, TOO.

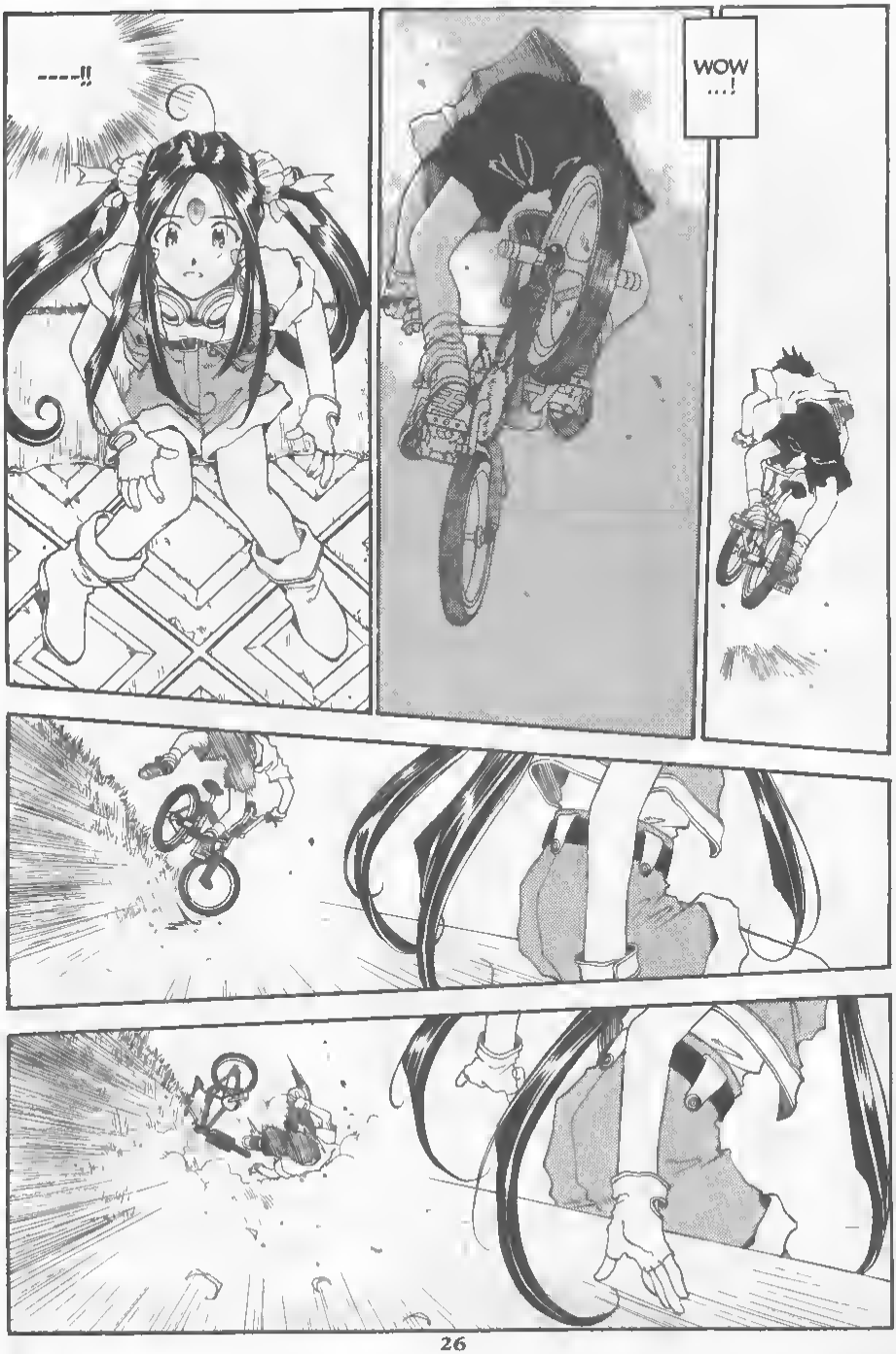
SKULD...
THAT'S RIGHT... IT WAS A MISTAKE.
BELL-DANDY JUST WASN'T FAST ENOUGH.
?? AGAIN?
....!
W-WAIT!
THAT CAN'T BE IT!

SHE'S JUST NOT DOING IT!
=hahh=
=hahh=
BELL-DANDY ISN'T HELPING ME!
YOU'VE ALMOST GOT IT, SKULD...
SH-SHE DOESN'T UNDER-STAND.
IT'S EASY FOR HER TO RIDE.
REALLY-- YOU'RE DOING FINE. BETTER EVERY TIME!
SHE REALLY DOESN'T UNDER STAND!
IT HURTS SO MUCH WHEN I FALL, BUT SHE.. SHE...

I QUIT.
EH ...?
I SAID I QUIT!
GODDESSES DON'T NEED TO RIDE BICYCLES ANYWAY!
NOBODY EVER HELPS ME!
GEE... MAYBE WE WERE A BIT TOO HARD ON HER...?
NO.

THE REASON SKULD STILL CAN'T USE HER POWERS..
...IS THAT SHE ALWAYS DEPENDS ON HER MACHINES OR ON SOMEBODY ELSE.
NO, KEIICHI...
...IT'S TIME FOR HER TO LEARN...
...THAT YOU ALWAYS FIND YOUR TRUE PATH ON THE FAR SIDE OF SUFFERING..

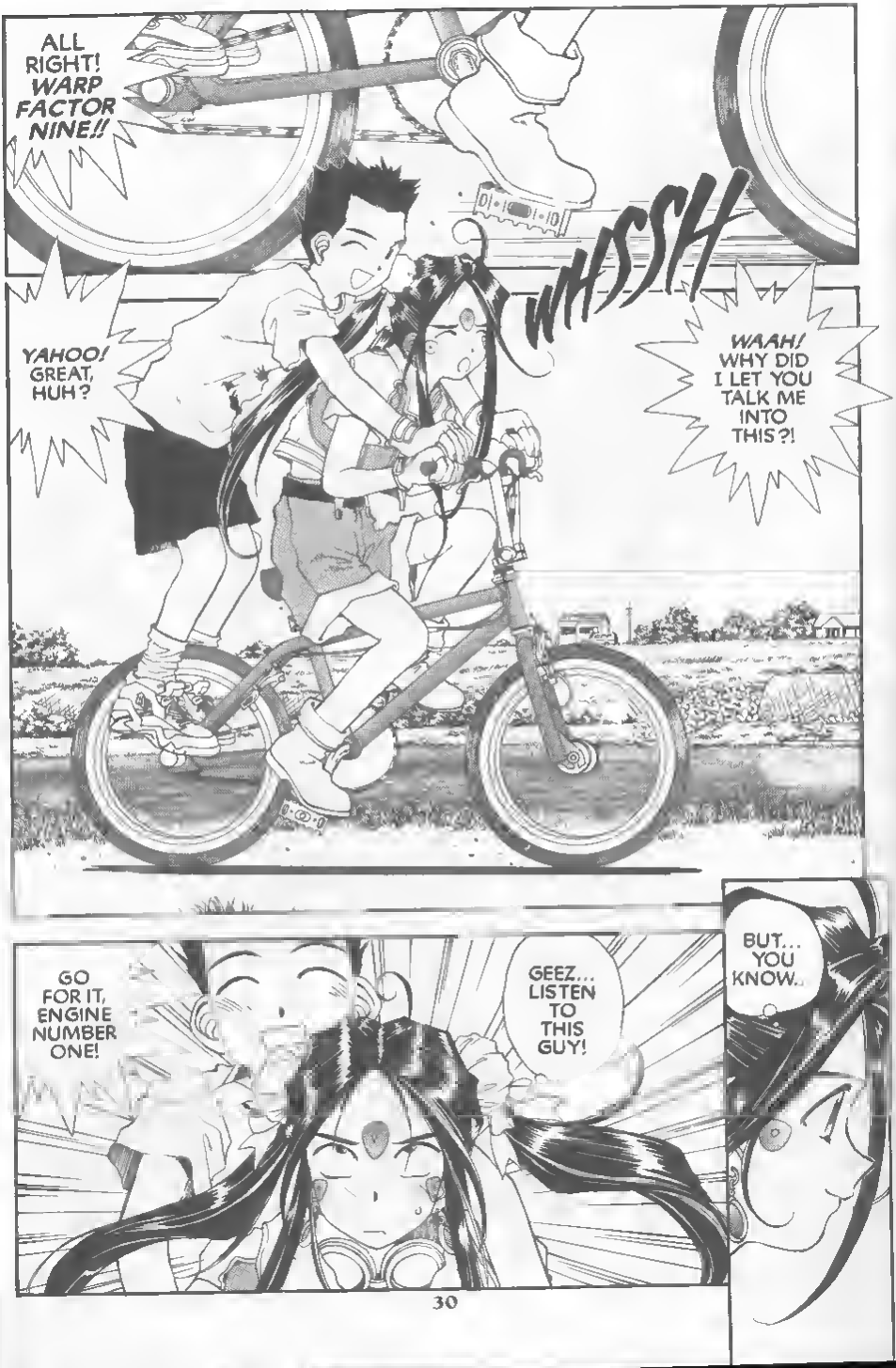
...AND THAT YOU CAN... YOU *MUST*... GET THERE BY YOUR SELF
HUH! STUPID BIKES!
WHO NEEDS THEM?!


----!!
WOW ...!

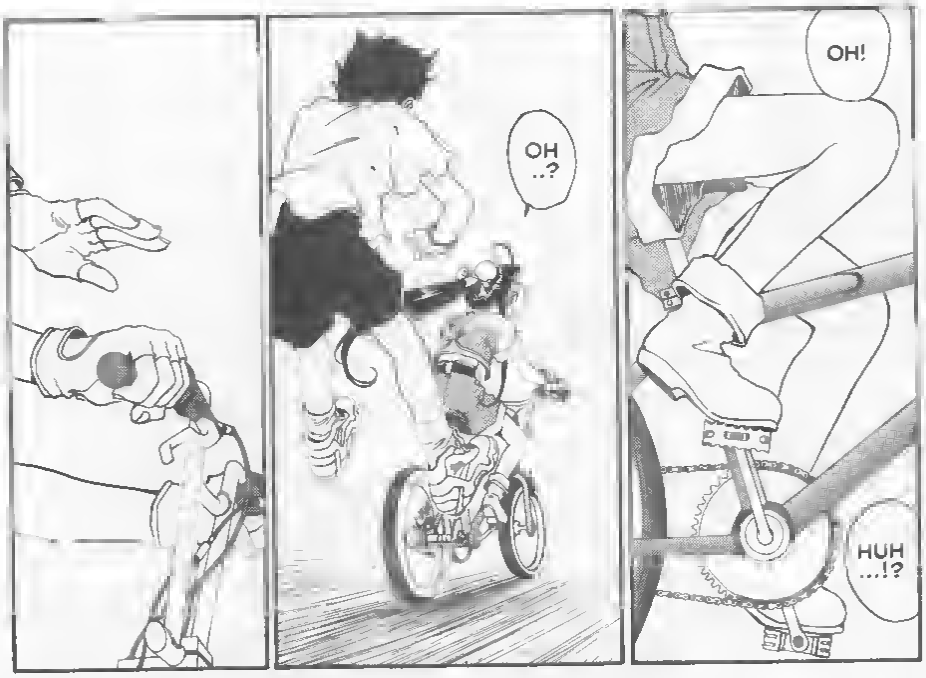
GEE! IS IT OKAY?!
OWW!
YEAH, I'M FINE, FINE.
I JUST KINDA SCREWED UP MY LANDING.
I MEANT THE *BIKE*.
...?
UH, YEAH. THINK SO. COUPLE NEW SCRATCHES, MAYBE.
BUT THAT WON'T HURT HOW IT RIDES.
COOL... YOU LIKE BIKES?
YOUR CHAIN'S A BIT LOOSE.
I'LL TIGHTEN IT FOR YOU.
...!

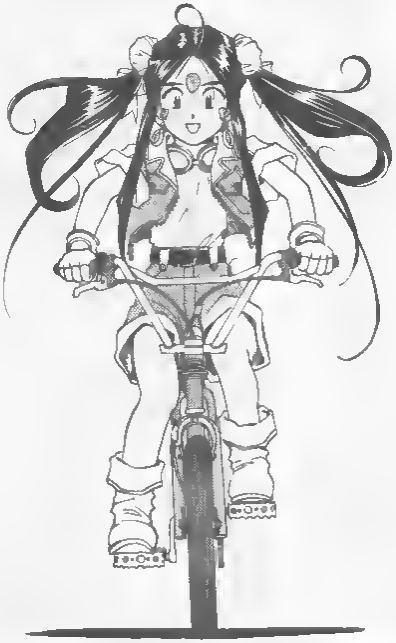
NOPE. I HATE 'EM.
HUH?
IT *HURTS* WHEN YOU CRASH.
AND MY DUMB SISTER DOESN'T EVEN CARE.
SO WHO'D EVEN WANT TO RIDE THE DUMB THINGS?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
BIKES ARE FUN *BECAUSE* THEY CAN CRASH!
THE THRILL IS KEEPING SOMETHING UNDER CONTROL WHEN IT WANTS TO WIPE OUT.
OTHERWISE YOU MAY AS WELL JUST RIDE AROUND ON A TRICYCLE OR SOMETHING!

...?
HEH...
I DON'T GET THAT AT ALL.
REALLY?
REALLY.
THEN YOU NEED TO HANG WITH ME A BIT AND I'LL SHOW YOU!
H-HUH?
Y-YOU WANT ME TO DO WHAT?!
FORGET IT! NO WAY!!
AW, C'MON! IT'LL BE OKAY!

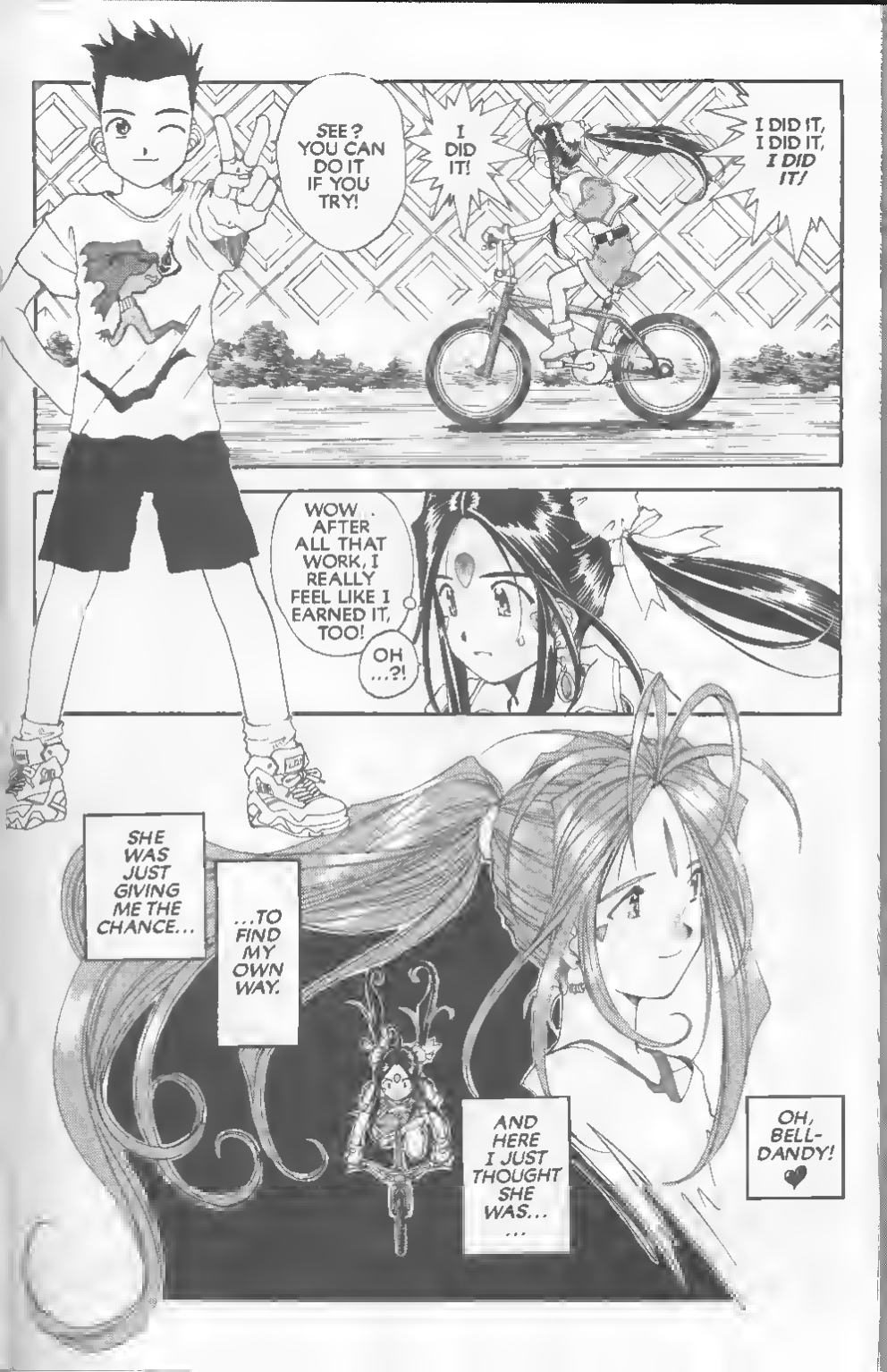

ALL RIGHT! WARP FACTOR NINE!!
WHSSSH
YAHOO! GREAT, HUH?
WAAH! WHY DID I LET YOU TALK ME INTO THIS?!
GO FOR IT, ENGINE NUMBER ONE!
GEEZ... LISTEN TO THIS GUY!
BUT... YOU KNOW..

IT'S AMAZING.
SO MUCH SPEED, JUST FROM MY OWN LEGS.
THE SCENERY RUSHING BY IN A BLUR...
...BUT THE WIND FEELS SO SOFT AND GENTLE
ALL RIGHT-- SLALOM!
EEK!
YOU KNOW... MAYBE BICYCLES ARE KIND OF FUN!

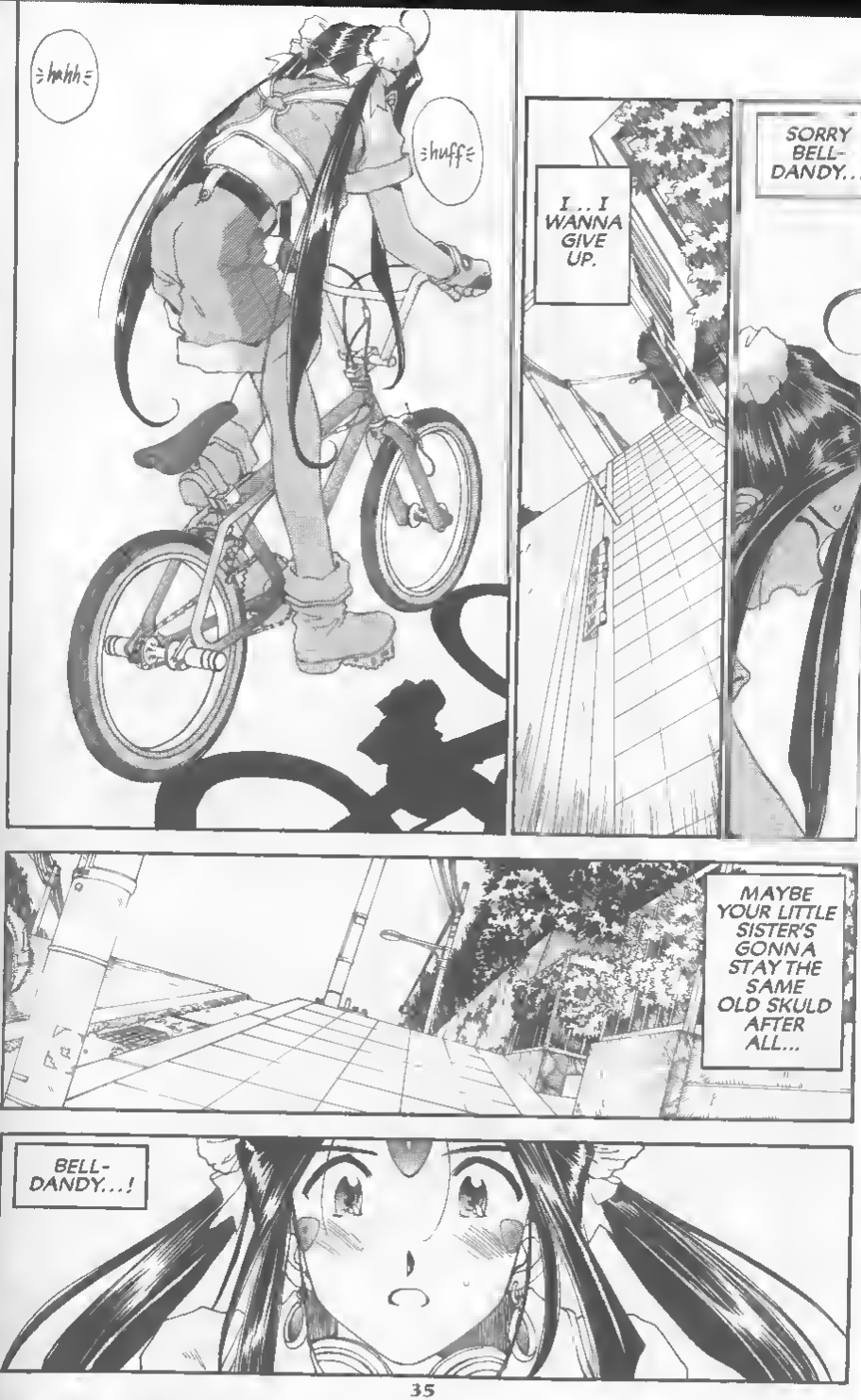




I... I'M RIDING!

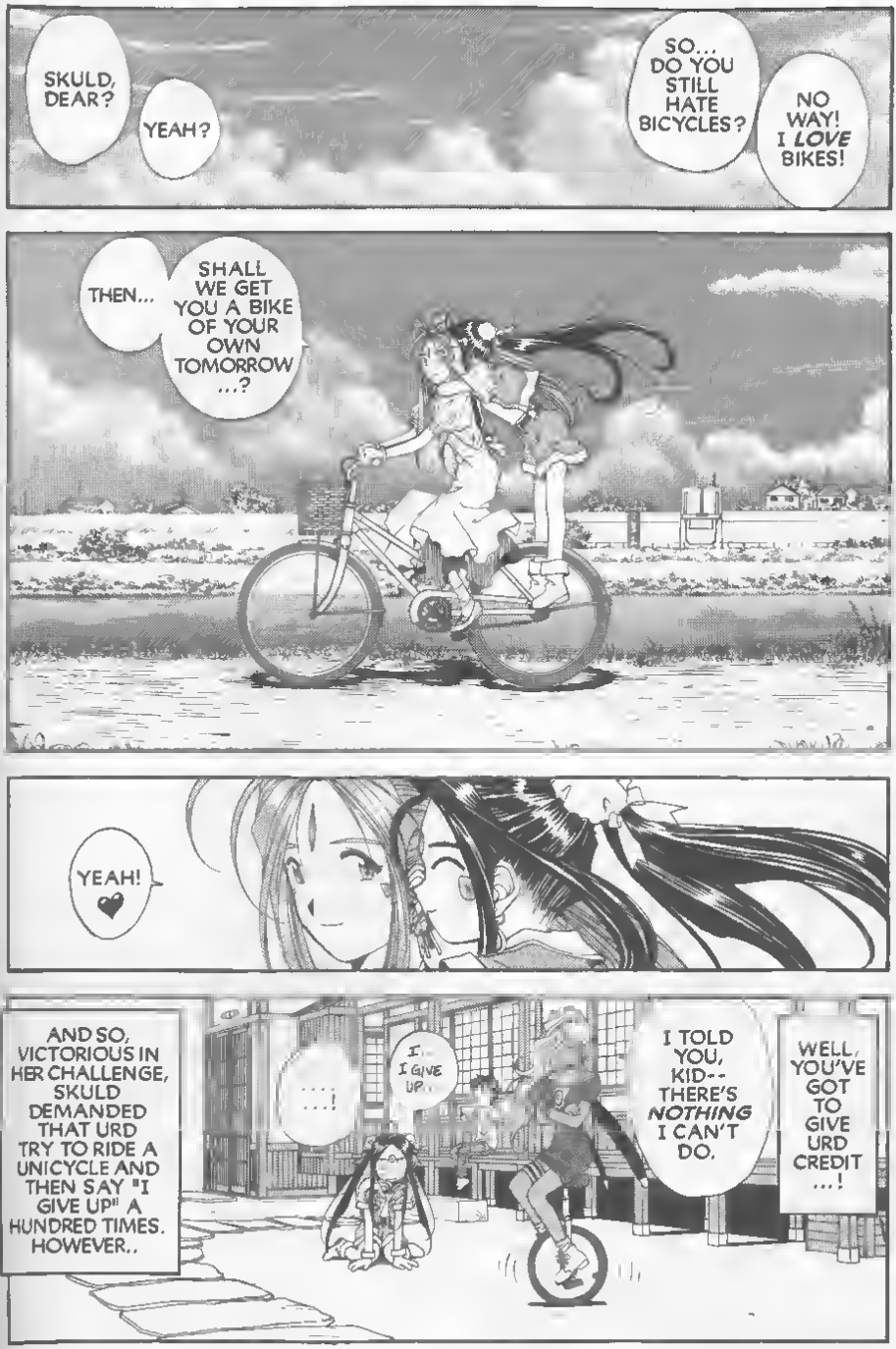

SEE? YOU CAN DO IT IF YOU TRY!
I DID IT!
I DID IT, I DID IT, I DID IT!
WOW. AFTER ALL THAT WORK, I REALLY FEEL LIKE I EARNED IT, TOO!
OH ...?!
SHE WAS JUST GIVING ME THE CHANCE...
...TO FIND MY OWN WAY.
AND HERE I JUST THOUGHT SHE WAS... ...
OH, BELL-DANDY!

'SCUSE ME! I'LL BRING YOUR BIKE BACK LATER!
GO FOR IT!
HUH?
HEY WAIT A SEC
BELL-DANDY, I... I'M GONNA BE DIFFERENT FROM NOW ON!
I WON'T DEPEND ON ANY-THING EXCEPT MYSELF ANY-MORE!
≒hahh≒
≒hff≒
WHEWW... I KNEW IT NEEDED AN ENGINE.
I DON'T REMEMBER THE SHORTCUT HAVING ALL THESE HILLS...


=hahh=
=huff=
I.. I WANNA GIVE UP.
SORRY BELL-DANDY...
MAYBE YOUR LITTLE SISTER'S GONNA STAY THE SAME OLD SKULD AFTER ALL...
BELL-DANDY...!

SKULD ...?
WHERE HAVE YOU GONE?
I KNOW YOURE A STRONGER GIRL THAN THAT.

HEY, SIS! LOOK AT ME!


SKULD, DEAR?
YEAH?
SO... DO YOU STILL HATE BICYCLES?
NO WAY! I *LOVE* BIKES!
THEN...
SHALL WE GET YOU A BIKE OF YOUR OWN TOMORROW ...?
YEAH!
AND SO, VICTORIOUS IN HER CHALLENGE, SKULD DEMANDED THAT URD TRY TO RIDE A UNICYCLE AND THEN SAY "I GIVE UP" A HUNDRED TIMES. HOWEVER..
...!
I... I GIVE UP...
I TOLD YOU, KID-- THERE'S *NOTHING* I CAN'T DO.
WELL, YOU'VE GOT TO GIVE URD CREDIT ...!

NEXT ISSUE: "CRAZY LITTLE THING CALLED LOVE"

Letters to the Enchantress

10956 SE MAIN STREET, MILWAUKIE, OREGON 97222
www.darkhorse.com • omg@darkhorse.com • www.studioproteus.com

Hi kids! It's me, your long-suffering (not really) editor. Sadly, this is my last letters column with you, as this is my last issue of *Oh My Goddess!*, as this is my last week at Dark Horse. Not-so-sadly, I am leaving because I've decided to be a full-time mommy to my new little boy. I am very excited about this, so I hope you'll forgive me and wish me well. I will miss you all very much—this has been a great book with the best fans anywhere on the planet and I feel privileged to have been a part of it. I hope you all keep reading and writing and drawing; and be kind to the new editor, Mike. He's a big fan of manga and will take good care of you! Thanks for making my job easy and FUN! Be good to each other. Love,

Rachel

Hello! I'm Mike Hansan, the new manga editor. I'm really excited about taking over all of these great series, like *Oh My Goddess!* I'll do my best to do as great a job as Rachel did the last two years. I think we're going to have a lot of fun here, so please keep writing in! (As I'm sure Rachel's told you, you letter-writers are the best!) So I hope we'll get to know each other better over the next few months, and I'll see you all next issue!
—MikeH!

Next Issue

Skuld is beginning to develop her powers at last, following the bicycle breakthrough

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ああっ女神さまっ

Childhood's End

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Watch the videos from AnimEigo!

Keiichi Morisato

Nekomi Tech student who dialed a wrong number and unwittingly summoned the goddess Belldandy

Belldandy

Goddess First Class (Unlimited) Very loving very kind

Urd

Goddess Second Class (Limited) Belldandy's big sister Very sexy, very naughty

Skuld

Goddess Second Class (Limited) Belldandy's little sister Very smart, slightly bratty

Sentaro

Skuld's young friend who taught her how to ride a bicycle

The Almighty

Almighty

The story so far:
Skuld is beginning to develop her powers at last, following her breakthrough learning to ride a bicycle. Her progress is furthered by her feelings for her friend Sentaro...

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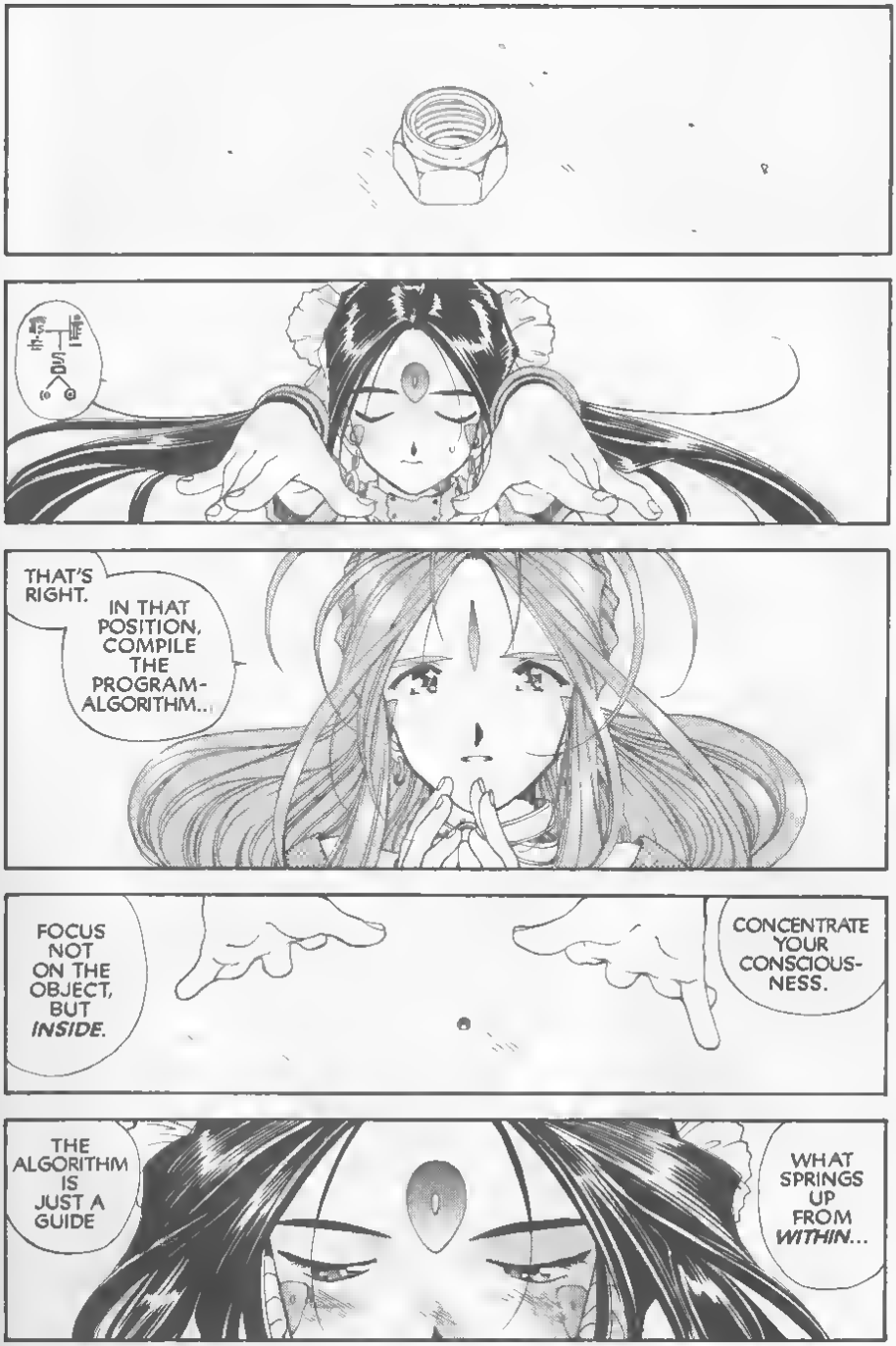
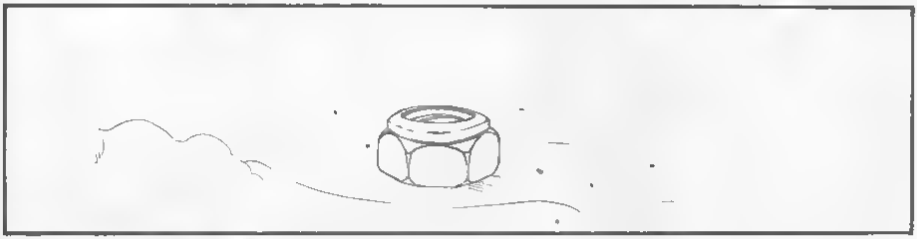

THAT'S RIGHT.
IN THAT POSITION, COMPILE THE PROGRAM-ALGORITHM...
FOCUS NOT ON THE OBJECT, BUT *INSIDE*.
CONCENTRATE YOUR CONSCIOUS-NESS.
THE ALGORITHM IS JUST A GUIDE
WHAT SPRINGS UP FROM *WITHIN*...

Crazy Little Thing Called Love



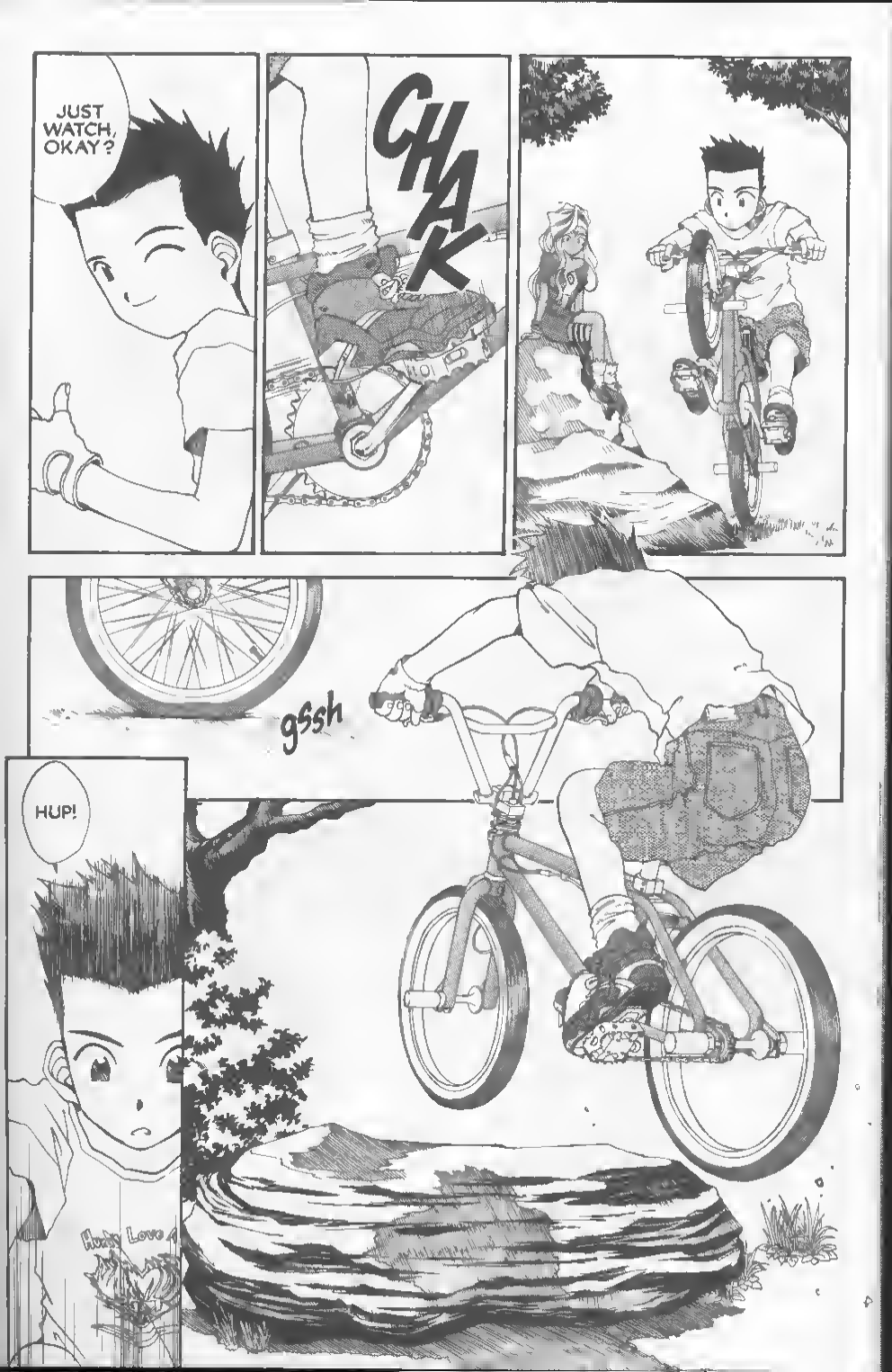
=hahh=
M-MAYBE I JUST DON'T HAVE THE TALENT...

FISHING FOR SYMPATHY, ARE WE, LITTLE SISTER...?
RRG!

PEOPLE WHO'VE ALREADY DONE EVERYTHING ELSE THEY CAN GET TO TALK ABOUT TALENT.
YOU HAVEN'T EVEN DONE YOUR BASIC HOME-WORK, KID.
LOOKY LOOKY E-Z!
YOU JUST SHUT UP, URD!!
SHE'S RIGHT, SKULD.
IF YOU GIVE UP, ALL POSSIBILITIES ARE LOST.
YES! THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!
SMACK
SHUT UP!
I SAID SHUT UP!!

REMEMBER HOW HARD YOU WORKED TO RIDE THE BICYCLE ...?
!
THAT'S RIGHT.
I NEARLY FORGOT.
BACK THEN, I PROMISED MYSELF...
...I WON'T GIVE UP SO EASY EVER AGAIN.
SO NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I'VE GOT TO *CONCEN-TRATE...*
WHATCHA DOIN'?
YOW!

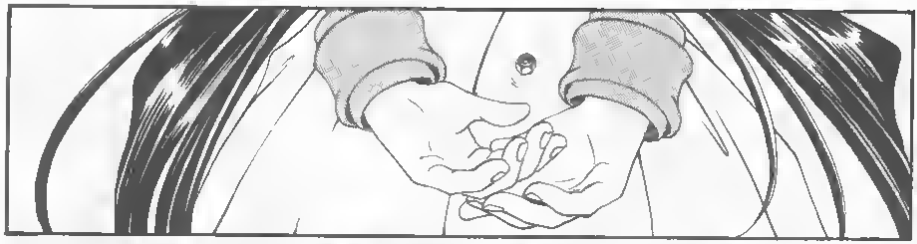
YO!
S-SENTARO...?!
YOU AGAIN...?
WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE! WELCOME!
NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MA'AM.
HOW COME YOU'RE HERE AGAIN?
EVERY STUPID DAY...!
I LEARNED A NEW TRICK, SO I THOUGHT I'D COME SHOW YOU.
SO? YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP COMING HERE--
OOH, SENTARO, BABY!
SO GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
CUT THAT OUT, URD!

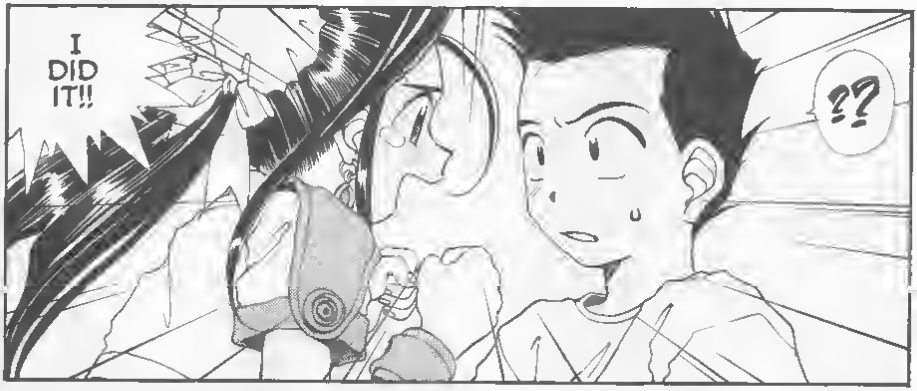

JUST WATCH, OKAY?
CHAK
gssh
HUP!

FWDO
OOOOOOOOOH!
TAA-DAA!
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP
WON-DERFUL!
THAT'S JUST *WON-DERFUL!*
HOW ON EARTH DO YOU LEARN TO *DO* THINGS LIKE THAT?!
EASY!
I LOVE IT!

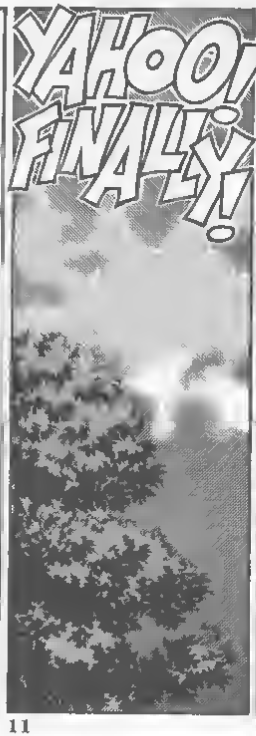
WH... WHY IS THAT EVERY TIME I HEAR THE WORD "LOVE" THESE DAYS, MY HEART JUMPS...?
IS IT THAT WORD? "LOVE" ...?
YES... IT'S LIKE A SWITCH FOR MY HEART.

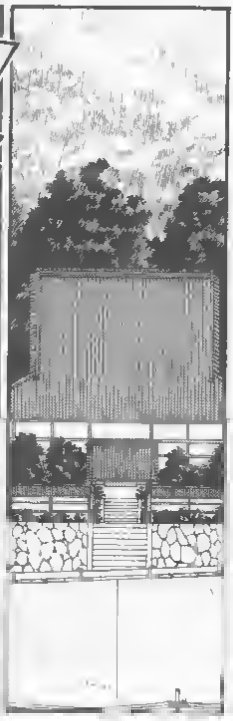
FOR SHAME, SKULD!
YOU DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
YOU HAVE TO CON-CEN-TRATE!
CONCEN--
!
ARE YOU OKAY, SKULD? YOUR FACE IS SO RED!
MAYBE YOU GOT HEATSTROKE ...?
WH-WHAT?!
I'M NOT A KID, YOU KNOW!
HUH?
DOES SHE THINK ONLY KIDS GET HEAT-STROKE?
OH ..?!



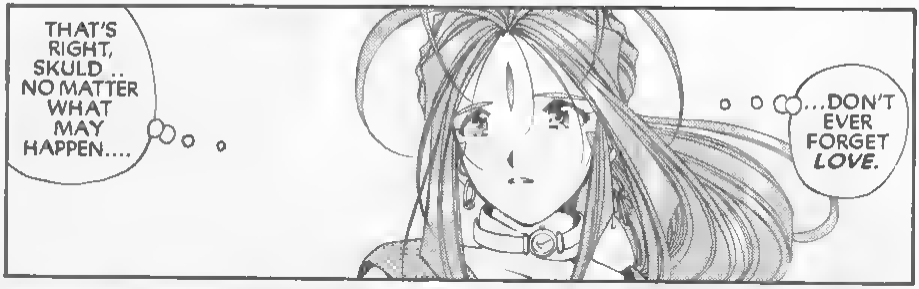

I DID IT!!
??

I DID IT, I DID IT, I DID IT!
I FINALLY DID IT!!
R-REALLY ...? THAT'S, UH, GREAT.
?
?

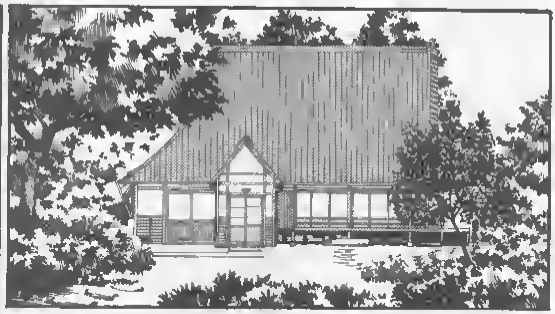

YAHOO! FINALLY!

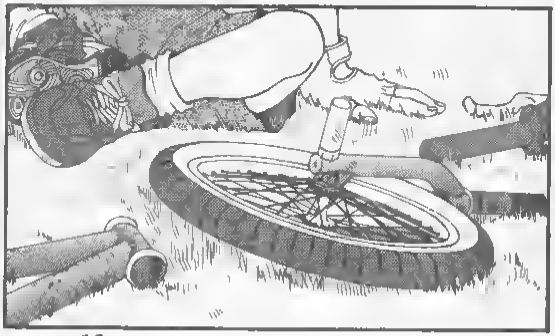


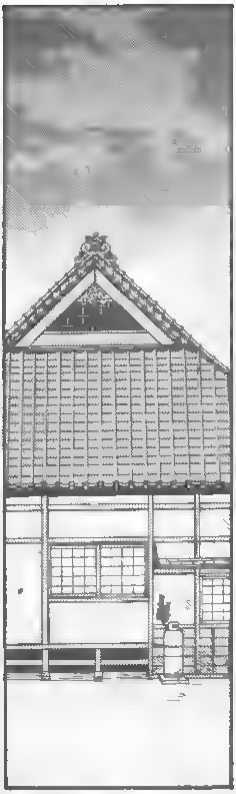
WOW!
HEH!
HEE-HEE-HEE!
THAT'S *SO* COOL, SKULD! JUST A WHILE AGO YOU COULDN'T DO IT AT *ALL*.
A GODDESS' POWER IS THE POWER OF *LOVE FOR OTHERS*
THAT'S *THE SOURCE*
AND I *KNOW* YOU'LL FEEL IT MORE AND MORE...

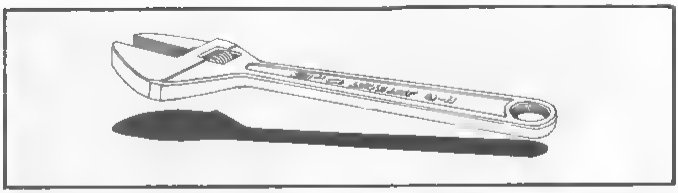

THAT'S RIGHT, SKULD... NO MATTER WHAT MAY HAPPEN....
...DON'T EVER FORGET *LOVE.*

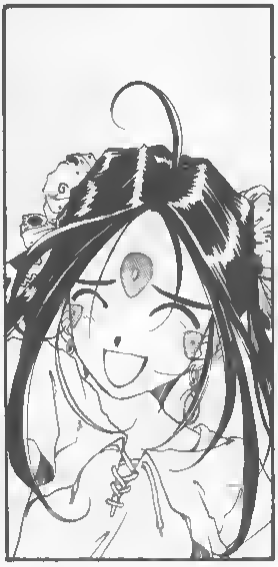
"WHAT YOU'RE FEELING NOW...
"THAT PRECIOUS, *PRECIOUS* FEELING."

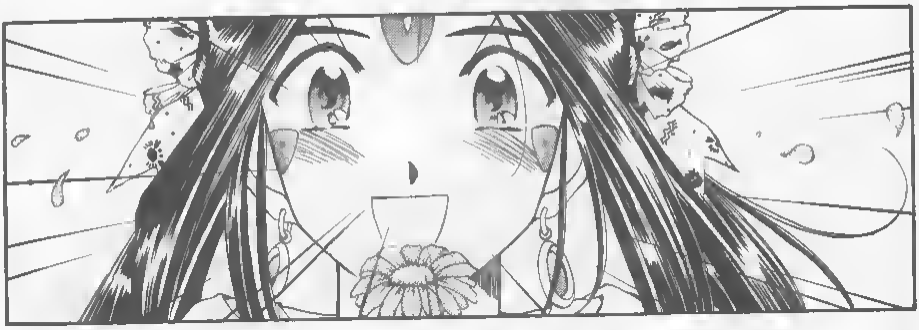


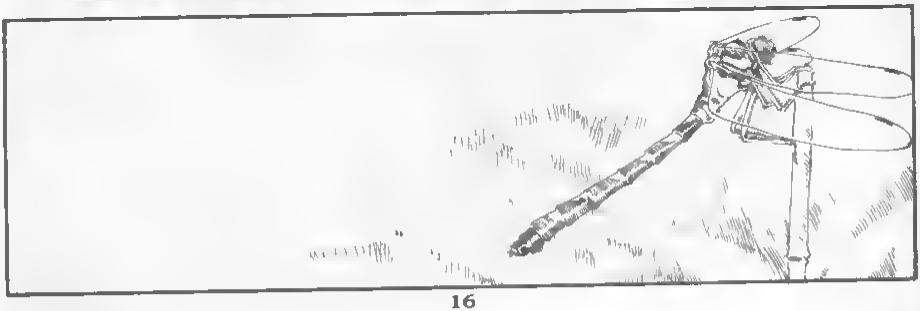












HEY... SKULD ...?
WHAT?
UM... WHAT SCHOOL DO YOU GO TO?
I DON'T.
HUH?
I MEAN, NOT AROUND HERE.
YA, EE!
SKRAASH
FWHMP

NOT AGAIN?!
ANY DAMAGE?!
OW.
NAW, IT'S OKAY. REALLY.
"I MEAN THE BICYCLE."
RIGHT ...?
SMARTASS! ANYWAY, YOU SCRATCHED YOUR FOREHEAD!
GO HAVE BELL-DANDY LOOK AT IT!
"YES, MOMMY."
WHICH MUST MEAN SHE'S..
?!
SHE DOESN'T GO TO SCHOOL AROUND HERE ..?

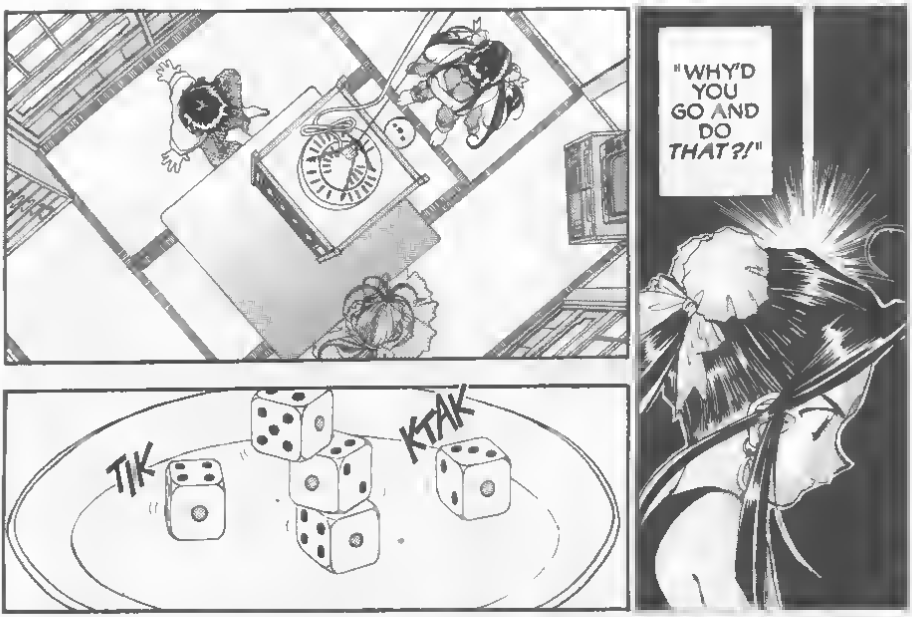
OF COURSE! THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL!
SHE IS A FOREIGNER
OH, SHEESH! WHAT'S HE MEAN, "IT'S OKAY" ...?!
IT'S EVEN MORE BANGED UP THAN BEFORE!
I'D LOVE TO HELP HIM RIDE...
...RIDE A REALLY BEAUTIFUL BIKE.
EEK

NOW...
...JUST HOLD STILL A MOMENT.

THERE-- ALL DONE!
HUH? IT *TOTALLY* STOPPED HURTING!
GEE... SKULD'S LUCKY. SHE'S GOT SUCH A NICE BIG SISTER...
OH, REALLY?
SKULD'S VERY NICE, TOO... DON'T YOU THINK?
....
YEAH.

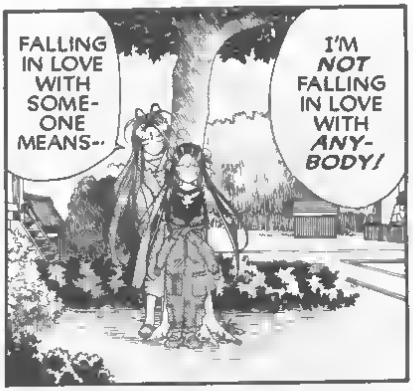
AH?
WAS IT OKAY?
DID SHE TAKE CARE OF IT?
YUP.
SEE?
SOCAL
SOCAL
WH-WHAT TH--?!
IS THAT *MINE?!*

SURE IS. ❤
DO YOU DID THAT, SKULD ...?
UH... YEAH.
WHY, SKULD? WHY'D YOU GO AND DO *THAT?!*
HUH?! B-BUT

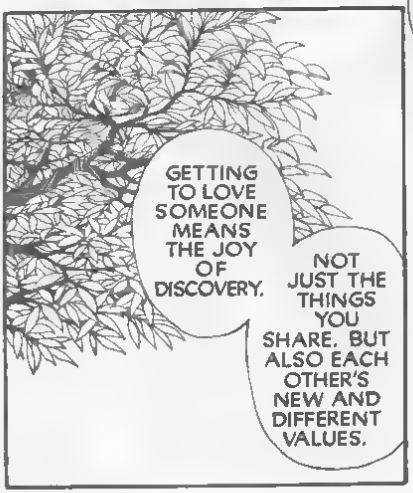


▲ SPECIAL TRAINING TO CONTROL HER POWER--SHE HAS TO LINE UP ALL THE NUMBERS ON THE DICE

YOU KNOW.. LIKE A DIARY, ALMOST.
GOOD TIMES, BAD TIMES, ALL ETCHED INTO YOUR BIKE.
THEY'RE LIKE MEDALS OF HONOR.
FOR SENTARO, SOME OF THEM MUST HAVE BEEN REALLY IMPORTANT MEMORIES
OH ...?
OH, REALLY?
I DON'T GET IT!!
SKULD ...?


FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOME-ONE MEANS--
I'M NOT FALLING IN LOVE WITH ANY-BODY!

REALLY..? THEN LET ME TALK TO MYSELF.


GETTING TO LOVE SOMEONE MEANS THE JOY OF DISCOVERY.
NOT JUST THE THINGS YOU SHARE. BUT ALSO EACH OTHER'S NEW AND DIFFERENT VALUES.

AND THEN... I THINK... IT'S THE JOY...
...OF CREATING A NEW WORLD TOGETHER.

I...
I THINK I UNDERSTAND NOW.
I DID A BAD THING TO SENTARO.
WELL, IN THAT CASE, I KNOW A *MAGIC WORD.*
AND IT'S JUST THE THING FOR THIS SORT OF SITUATION.
HM?
"YOU SHOULD HAVE THE POWER TO USE IT NOW, SKULD...."
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SENTARO, HE'S DOWN ON THE RIVER-BANK.

THANK YOU, SIS!
MY PLEA-SURE.
"THANK YOU, SIS" ...?
WELL, WELL!

...!
SHAKK
WINCH
GURK!
!!

BAD!
BAD!
BAD!
VERY BAD!
FZZZK
?!
SENTARO!!
PLEASE! I DON'T CARE IF I CAN NEVER USE IT AGAIN!
GIVE ME MY FULL POWER! NOW!

SKRASH
KANGG
?
?
?
?
SEN-TARO!!

ANY-THING HURT?!
SKULD ...?
NAW. PROBABLY NOT.
SHE COULDN'T HAVE ...?
WELL...
SO MUCH FOR THAT IDEA.
LOOKS LIKE IT'S REALLY BUSTED THIS TIME.
DUMMY!
I MEANT YOU!!
SKULD POWER
HUH?!
ME ...?

AND... UM...
UM... I WANNA...
....
....
"YOU SHOULD HAVE THE POWER TO USE IT NOW, SKULD..."
I.. I'M SORRY!
EACH OF THOSE SCRATCHES... EVERY ONE...
I D-DIDN'T REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT THEY WERE TO YOU.

WELL, UH... ACTUALLY... ONLY ONE OF 'EM MATTERED.
IT... ....
OH...? BUT THAT ONE WAS REALLY IMPORTANT, RIGHT?
AW, HEY, FORGET IT.
ANYWAY, YOU FIXED MY BIKE FOR ME, AND NOW JUST LOOK AT IT!
REALLY SCREWED UP, DIDN'T I?
SENTARO...? THAT REALLY IMPORTANT SCRATCH?
YOU WANNA KNOW WHY?
UM... YEAH.

AIN'T GONNA TELL YA!
OOH!! NO FAIR!!
I COULD NEVER TELL YOU, SKULD... THAT IT WAS THE SCRATCH FROM THE DAY I MET YOU...
SKSSH
AAAH?! YOU WERE SPYING ON US?!!
EVEN YOU, BELLDANDY?!
GRR!
I JUST HAPPENED TO BE PASSING
YO!
WELL, I GOT WORRIED

NEXT ISSUE: "THE QUEEN AND THE GODDESS"

Letters to the Enchantress

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Is it that time already?! Time to dive into the GIANT stack of Letters to the Enchantress! Yay! But first, I'd like to once again thank Rachel Penn and her assistant Dan Harris for all of their hard work editing *Oh My Goddess!* and Dark Horse's other manga series. I'll do my best to keep the Dark Horse manga line looking its best!

One more quick thing: due to advertising-space restrictions, I need to try to keep the letters pages down to two pages. So, I need to cut back on the amount of fan artwork that gets printed (Argh!). From now on, we're going to have a special "Fan Art of the Month" feature in the letters column, along with all of our other regular features. PLEASE keep sending in your drawings of Belldandy, Keiichi, and the gang — I'd print them all if I could, but we're going to have to cut back a bit for now.

And now, your letters...

Dear Enchantress,

I've been a fan of *Oh My Goddess!* for some time now, and I just wanted to drop you a line and let you know how much I appreciate the efforts of you fine folks there at Dark Horse Comics and Studio Proteus. The most recent outing, "A Goddess Never Forgets," was well up to Mr. Fujishima's usual standard of excellence, but what really makes it interesting is how it shines some light on what I have come to understand is something of a running debate among *OMG!* fans. What debate, you may ask? Simply this: Keiichi Morisato — feckless wimp or misunderstood hero?

In "A Goddess Never Forgets," we learn that Peorth has for some time harbored a grudge against Belldandy, not because of any insult on Belldandy's part, but because of a deed that can at worst be described as a charitable kindness. Peorth felt insulted that Belldandy should think her in need of such "charity," that the appearance of such a need in some way lessened her. This idea, I think, is at the core of the persistent perception that our man Morisato is a wimp.

The general rhythm of *OMG!* stories usually has Keiichi getting into some sort of trouble, either by the direct action of one of the three goddesses, or by getting caught in the crossfire of some divine mess that has nothing to do with him, and it then follows that the sisters must help him out of whatever mess they have, intentionally or not, gotten him into. I think it's this fact that Keiichi is constantly in need of help (and, horror of horrors, female help at that) that fuels the wimp argument. The idea persists to this day that if a guy can't do for himself, he's not really a man.

Of course, there are other factors that contribute to this perception. Keiichi isn't terribly assertive (why doesn't he just tell Belldandy that he loves her?) and is at times nice to the point of being a doormat (why doesn't he just tell Peorth to shove off?), but these things are what make him endearing and just indicate that, like Belldandy, he is sometimes too good a person than is usually practical.

Let me state that I, at least, don't consider Keiichi a wimp. All one really has to do is remember back during the "Terrible Master Urd" story line where Keiichi, decked out in a Skuld-designed suit of power armor, went toe-to-toe with Urd's Ultimate Destruction Mecha. (Of course, he lost, but that's beside the point.) Hardly the actions of a coward, I would think. Anyway, let's hear no more discussion! Keiichi Morisato is not a wimp, he's just an extraordinarily easy-going guy. There is a difference. So there.

Thanks for letting me ramble on there. I feel much better. Keep up the good work!

Robert Childers
Warrensburg, MO

And thanks for writing, Robert. I'm with you, buddy — any guy who's able to gain the friendship, love, and/or respect of several beautiful women and goddesses has to be doing something right!

Dear Enchantress,

I would like to thank you for publishing such a wonderful series. I have collected every comic since the first issue and look forward to many more.

My favorite character is Belldandy. I admire the way that she constantly sees the best in people and is always there with encouragement. I feel that Belldandy's pure spirit is exemplified by her kindness, whether it is directed towards Keiichi or someone who sees her as an enemy.

It is unsurprising that Keiichi feels the way he does for her. I found the panels on the bottom of page 5 leading over to page 6 of *Part VII* #1 to be quite touching. I hope that one day someone views me in the same light. I also

hope that I will notice. It hasn't happened yet and I sometimes worry that it may never occur, as I am a little shy.

I really enjoy reading the lovely tales presented in *OMG!*, as they are truly delightful experiences, but occasionally I wonder if I am letting the fantasy displace the reality? I cannot believe this to be entirely true, as I see people around me apparently in love. Yet I remain alone (and lonely).

Until my time comes, please promise to continue printing the excellent *OMG!*

Penelope Constance
kitsune@usagimail.com

Thanks for your insightful comments, Penelope. I think part of the reason for the massive popularity of *Oh My Goddess!* is that it's one of the few comics series out there to feature genuinely nice characters. It's not always easy to run into that kind of person in life, which makes a person's kindness that much more special.

Speaking from personal experience, it seems that a person feels loneliest when he or she is constantly aware of not having someone to be close to and share themselves with. I believe that the only way a person can truly be happy is if they try to be the best person they can be. It's the people who are kind and fun and who clearly enjoy life who are the most attractive — at least, to me. So rather than focus on what you don't have, try to focus on what you can do — and what you can try to get yourself! The rest will follow — trust me.

(And don't worry: *OMG!* is still running in Japan, so rest assured we have many more years of fun ahead!)

Don't forget to be on the lookout for *Super Manga Blast!*, the mega-sized, low-priced manga anthology series coming in March from Dark Horse! *SMB!* will include, for the first time, the "lost" episodes of *Oh My Goddess!* that were skipped over in *Parts I-III*. See Keiichi's adventures with just one goddess for the first time! Let your comics retailer know *NOW* that you want *SMB!*

Finally: no pen-pals section this month, folks, 'cause next issue's going to have a huge, new pen-pals list! (Remember to let me know if you want to be added to it!) See you next month!

— MikaHi

Fan Art

by
Denmark Havime Millan

NOTE: All fan artwork submitted becomes the property of Dark Horse Comics and will not be returned!

Next Issue

Sayoko chances to see Belldandy amarga from a mirror. But she still refuses to believe Belldandy is a goddess, and becomes so suspicious that she attracts an "Anki," a creature that lives on people's trusting heart energy. Belldandy must convince Sayoko that goddesses are real before Sayoko turns into a peranoid psychotic!

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translated by
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lettering and re-touch by
SUSIE LEE and PC ORZ

cover by
KOSUKE FUJISHIMA

designer
AMY ARENDTS

editor
MIKE HANSEN

publisher
MIKE RICHARDSON

English version produced by Studio Proteus for Dark Horse Comics, Inc.

Keiichi Morisato

Nekomi Tech student who dialed a wrong number and unwittingly summoned the goddess Belldandy

Belldandy

Goddess First Class (Unlimited) Very loving, very kind

Urd

Goddess Second Class (Limited) Belldandy's big sister Very sexy, very naughty

Skuld

Goddess Second Class (Limited) Belldandy's little sister Very smart, slightly bratty

Sayoko

The most popular girl at Nekomi Tech Can't understand why Keiichi prefers Belldandy over her

The Almighty

Almighty

The story so far:

College student Keiichi Morisato accidentally dialed a wrong number and summoned the goddess Belldandy! After granting Keiichi's wish that she stay with him forever, Belldandy and her sisters, Urd and Skuld, are living with him — and having plenty of misadventures! Now, the wealthy Sayoko, who considers herself Belldandy's rival, is determined to figure out exactly how it is Belldandy can perform all kinds of magic tricks...

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Watch the videos from AnimEigo!

The QUEEN and the GODDESS

VRMBB

WHOAA!
YES... YES! THIS IS IT!
THOSE ADORING GAZES ARE MY ENERGY SOURCE!

AND YET...
IT ALL FEELS KIND OF... POINT-LESS
I KNOW IT'S SUMMER BREAK, BUT STILL...
...SHE HASN'T BEEN AROUND AT ALL.
I MISS THE TENSION! LET'S SEE SOME SPARKS FLY!
C'MON, BELL-DANDY! COME OUT AND FIGHT!
FWWW

OH?!
AH?

NO...NO DON'T DO IT! CAN'T FAINT. NOT NOW
PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER. THAT'S RIGHT. SAYOKO IS *CALM* SAYOKO IS *COOL*
"THIS SORT OF THING'S HAPPENED BEFORE REMEMBER?"
BUT THIS TIME .IT WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES! I SAW IT... *I REALLY SAW IT!*
ER... HELLO ..?
SAYOKO ...?

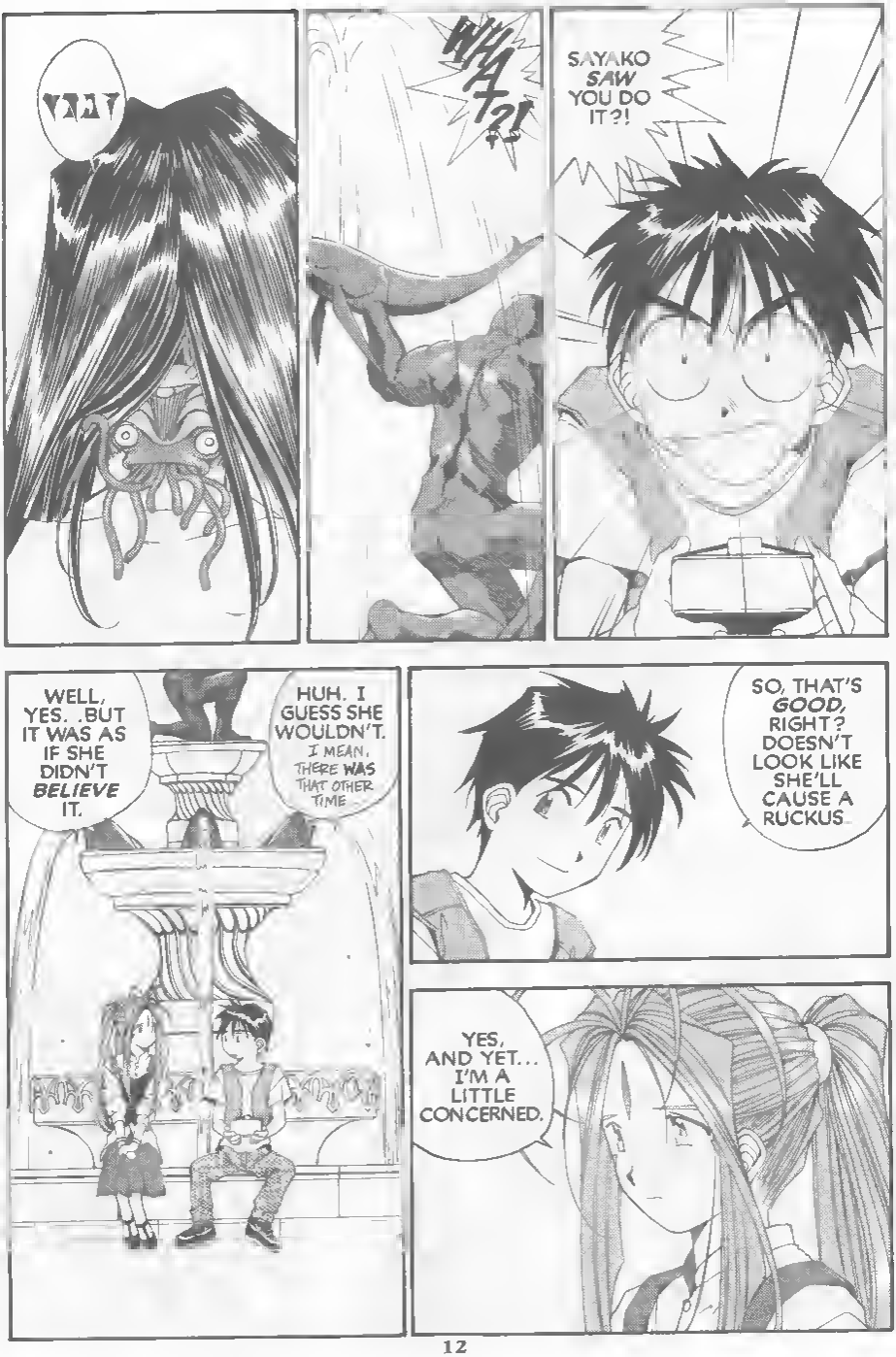
HOH! HOH! HOH! I GET IT!
EH?
YOU'RE A WITCH!
"A WITCH"...?
THAT'S RIGHT! YOU'RE A PRINCESS FROM MAGIC-LAND AND YOU CAME HERE ON A BROOM! OR, OR...
NO! WAIT! I KNOW!! YOU WERE GIVEN MAGICAL POWERS BY A MYSTERIOUS SPACE ALIEN, AND YOU TRANSFORM WITH A WEIRD LITTLE CHANT, AND THEN YOU BECOME A SUPER IDOL SINGER AND, AND...
OR MAYBE YOU GOT THIS WITCH RIVAL, RIGHT?! AND YOU'RE FIGHTING HER FOR THE THRONE OF THE DEMON WORLD!

HAH! BUT NOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN EXPOSED YOU CAN'T STAY HERE IN THE WORLD OF HUMANS, RIGHT?!
THAT'S THE RULE FOR YOU WITCHES! SO GET OUTTA HERE, OR IT'S THE SPANISH INQUISITION FOR YOU, SERVANT OF HELL!
ER... ACTUALLY... I'M A GODDESS, NOT A WITCH.
....?
OHH... I AM SO ASHAMED! EVEN IF IT WAS FOR JUST A MOMENT, I LOST MY SELF-CONTROL.
OF COURSE IT WAS A TRICK. IT HAS TO BE A TRICK!
SAYOKO ...?
HOH.. HOH HOH HOH HOH HOH HOH!
THAT'S THE BEST YOU COULD COME UP WITH? YOU'RE A GODDESS?

IT'S THE SAME AS THOSE *PENN AND TELLER* GUYS.
ONCE YOU KNOW HOW THEY DO IT, IT'S *SO* OBVIOUS.
S-*SAYAKO!* ON YOUR SHOULDER--
WHAT? THERE'S NOTHING THERE.
C'MON-- THAT'S THE OLDEST ONE IN THE BOOK!
DID I REALLY SEE IT...? AND WHAT WAS IT...?
ANYWAY IF YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD SCARE ME OFF WITH YOUR LITTLE TRICKS YOU ARE SO *SO* WRONG
OH ...?

WHAT NONSENSE! WHY, IF GODS AND GODDESSES..
...WERE JUST HANGING OUT ON STREET CORNERS..
...NONE OF US WOULD HAVE ANY PROBLEMS...
AT...
ALL...
....

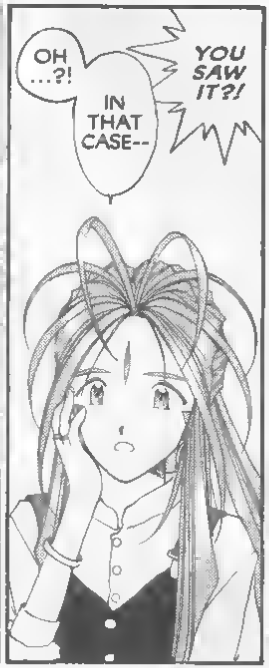
HEH...
YO!
ER... WELCOME TO URD'S MAGIC SHOW!
HEH, HEH...?
!!
NOT THAT IT'S ANY OF MY BUSINESS, BUT...
...AREN'T YOU A LITTLE OLD TO BE PLAYING DRESS-UP AND MAKE-BELIEVE...?
...?
OOPS!
WAIT A SEC-- I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS NOW!


YYY
WHA?!
SAYAKO SAW YOU DO IT?!
SO, THAT'S GOOD, RIGHT? DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE'LL CAUSE A RUCKUS.
YES, AND YET... I'M A LITTLE CONCERNED.
WELL, YES. .BUT IT WAS AS IF SHE DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.
HUH. I GUESS SHE WOULDN'T. I MEAN, THERE WAS THAT OTHER TIME.

HEY, THERE-- YOU TWO GOT A SEC?!

YOU DIDN'T HAPPEN TO SEE SOME SORT OF *WEIRD CRITTER* FLOATING AROUND HERE?
I'VE GOT TO CATCH THE LITTLE RASCAL *QUICK,* OR ELSE...!

"WEIRD CRITTER" ...?
WELL, UH... IT'S SORTA LIKE *THIS,* AN' *THIS,* AN'...


OH ...?!
IN THAT CASE--
YOU SAW IT?!

YES, JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO. IT LANDED ON SAYOKO'S SHOULDER AND--
AAGH!!

ulp
I ORDERED AN ANGEL'S EGG...
BUT FOR SOME REASON THEY SENT ME AN ANKI EGG!
DON'T YOU GIVE ME THAT LOOK, KEIICHI MORISATO!!
URD ..!
OH, URD. NOW WHAT?
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT! I SWEAR!!
EH?!
OH, NO! NOT AN ANKI!

ER. WHAT IS IT, ANY-WAY?
IT'S A TENTACLED DEMON THAT GETS ITS ENERGY BY DEVOURING A PERSON'S ABILITY TO TRUST AND BELIEVE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE IT..
AS SOON AS IT ATTACHED ITSELF TO POOR SAYOKO, SHE LOST HER ABILITY TO BELIEVE IN ANYTHING.
HMPH! WHOLE DAMN WORLD IS FULL OF LIARS!!
NO WAY!
AND IF THAT WAS ALL, IT'D BE BAD ENOUGH.
BUT AS IT SUCKS UP ALL HER TRUST, IT'LL GROW AND GROW... UNTIL IT CRUSHES HER!
DARN IT, URD!!

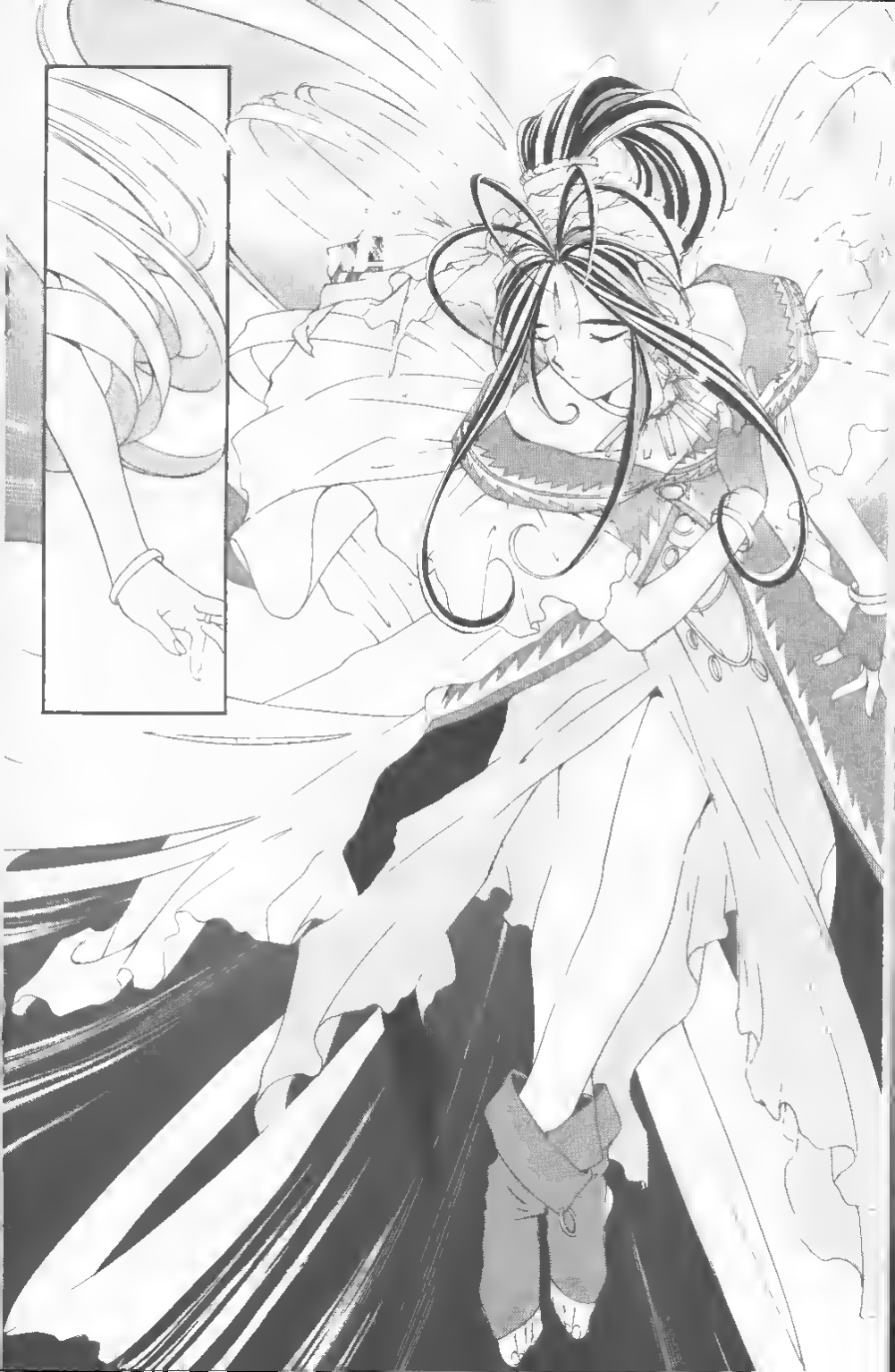
GET THAT THING OFF OF HER!
IT'S TOUGH. IF WE DON'T DO IT RIGHT...
...SHE DIES.
WHY THE HECK DID YOU ORDER SUCH A DANGEROUS THING?!
I TOLD YOU, THEY SENT ME THE WRONG THING!!
ANYWAY, AN ANKI CAN ONLY ATTACH WHEN SOMEONE'S HEART IS ALREADY RIDDLED WITH DOUBT.
IT'S WHAT THEY'RE ATTRACTED TO
SO IF WE CAN GET HER TO BELIEVE THE THING SHE FIRST DOUBTED, THEN WE CAN REMOVE THE NASTY LITTLE BEASTIE.
THEN .. WHEN SHE SAW ME...

NO WAY?!
WE'VE GOT TO MAKE HER BELIEVE YOU'RE A GODDESS?!
WHUSSUP?
OOPS.
AHH, IT'S JUST THAT MORISATO GUY CAUSING TROUBLE AGAIN
FORGET IT! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
SHE'S RIGHT. YOU THINK SHE'S GONNA BELIEVE YOU NOW?
WHAT KIND OF LIFE WILL SHE HAVE WITHOUT THE ABILITY TO TRUST IN OTHERS...?
TRUST IS THE WELLSPRING OF JOY IN OUR LIVES.

"PLEASE, SAYOKO... BELIEVE IN YOUR-SELF!"
MAN... I FEEL SO... SO *HEAVY* TODAY...
AH, THE LOVELY MISS SAYOKO!
WOULD YOU CARE TO JOIN ME FOR DINNER TODAY AT *LE SPA VERTE*?
!!
YOU.
WHAT KIND OF LEWD, DISGUSTING INTENTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

HUH?
IT'S *TRUE!* I *KNOW* IT!! YOU MEN ARE *ALL ALIKE!* YOU ONLY TREAT US NICE BECAUSE YOU WANT OUR *BODIES!*
AGHH! YOU'RE TOTALLY DISGUSTING! LOATHESOME! *FILTHY!*
SAYOKO!
SAYOKO?
YOU'RE PLANNING TO *KIDNAP ME,* AREN'T YOU? YEP.
...?
NOW, SAYOKO... REALLY... I SWEAR...
ER... YOU MIND COMING WITH US A FOR A MINUTE?

I KNEW IT! YOU'RE GOING TO KNOCK ME OUT AND REMOVE ONE OF MY KIDNEYS AND SELL IT TO ORGAN TRADERS!! HOW HORRIBLE!!
THAT'S JUST AN URBAN LEGEND, YOU KNOW...
LOOK, REALLY-- DON'T WORRY. JUST COME WITH US.
YOU'RE NOT PLANNING TO SELL ME TO WHITE SLAVERS ...?
NO!!
SAYOKO ...?
PLEASE WATCH CARE-FULLY.
FZZK
SWAKK



WHAT ARE YOU BLUSHING ABOUT ...?
IT'S TRUE
I AM A GODDESS.
hmph
QUITE THE QUICK-CHANGE ARTIST, ANYWAY
ARGH!.. I KNEW IT!
OH, NO! IT'S GROWING!
VERY WELL! IN THAT CASE--
SO ...?
SLRBB

FWISH
Come Forth My Angel, Blessed Bell!
THE MOLDING ISN'T VERY GOOD. LACKS REALITY.
I CAN SEE THE ZIPPER, TOO

LACK OF REALITY
WAAH!
SSSSS
NOW WHAT SHOULD WE DO? IT'S STILL GROWING!
SLRRRB
I FIGURED THAT SORT OF STUFF WOULDN'T WORK.
WE GOTTA TRY SOME-THING REALLY FLASHY!

THIS IS A JOB FOR SUPERURD!
CHECK IT OUT!
....
I KNEW IT--JUST STUPID MAGIC TRICKS
?
SLRRRBB
URD! IT'S HAVING THE OPPOSITE EFFECT!

SAYONO!
PLEASE!! TRUST IN ME!
ABOUT WHAT ...?
OOPS... I DIDN'T THINK THAT FAR AHEAD.
HAH! NOT THAT I WAS COUNTING ON YOU.
OH, YEAH?! AND WHAT GOOD DID YOU DO, HUH, URD?!
I'M OUTTA HERE. SEE YA.
SO?! YOU THINK YOU HELPED?

NNGRR... EVERYONE IN THE WORLD IS FULL OF LIES... LIES!!
HEY, SAYOKO!
WHAT'S WRONG?
MY LADY SEEMS IN A TERRIBLE MOOD.
...?! YOU'RE AN IMPOSTER.
HUH?
THE TOSHIYUKI I KNOW WOULD NEVER WORRY ABOUT ANOTHER PERSON
HE'S A SELFISH, NARCISSISTIC, ARROGANT CREEP.
ACK!
WELL, IT'S ALL TRUE, BUT STILL... OUCH!

YANK
OW! ?!
SAYOKO!
STOP THAT!
COME ON! TAKE OFF THAT CHEESY MASK AND SHOW ME YOUR FACE, IMPOSTER!
OW OW YEOW!
HMPH!
NOW I KNOW YOUR LITTLE GAME
HUH?
THE FACT THAT YOU CALL ME "SAYOKO"...
...PROVES I'M NOT THIS "SAYOKO" PERSON AT ALL!

SAYOKO, LISTEN TO ME! I--
OH! THAT'S IT--I SEE IT ALL, NOW!
YOU DON'T REALLY EXIST, EITHER!
THE WHOLE WORLD IS A LIE!
IT'S ALL A SICK ILLUSION!!

SAYOKO? WHERE ARE YOU GO--
SAYOKO! DON'T!
THAP
AND IF ALL THAT'S TRUE... THEN I DON'T EXIST, EITHER!!

OH?

BUT... BUT YOU'RE..
.....?
BELL-DANDY ...?
SAYOKO... YOU DON'T HAVE TO BELIEVE I'M A GODDESS
BUT DON'T STOP BELIEVING IN YOUR-SELF.
I MEAN, THAT BELIEF IS WHAT MAKES YOU WHO YOU ARE
B-BELL-DANDY...
FLICK
FLICK
YOU REALLY ARE...

GOTCHA!
YOU REALLY PUT US THROUGH THE WRINGER, BUDDY.
URD'S GONNA MAKE YOU *PAY* FOR THAT!

SAYOKO ...?
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T TELL ANYONE.
I MEAN... WHO WOULD BELIEVE IT?
SO YOU REALLY *AREN'T* HUMAN, ARE YOU...?
...
SAYOKO...
BUT SHEESH... WHO'D A' THUNK IT? A *WITCH!*
B-BUT...

NEXT ISSUE: "HAIL TO THE CHIEF"

Letters to the Enchantress

10956 SE MAIN STREET, MILWAUKIE, OREGON 97222
www.darkhorse.com • omg@darkhorse.com • www.studioproteus.com

NOTE: Full addresses and e-mail addresses will not be printed unless you ask!

Whoops! I was hoping to have a big ol' Pen-Pal List for you readers this issue, but various circumstances (I ran out of time) kept that from happening. Keep reading — we'll have a super list of pen pals coming in the months ahead! If you want to be added to the Pen-Pal List, be sure to send your name, address, and (if you want) e-mail address and age. I've gone through a TON of old fan mail from all of you, and I'm afraid to print any of your addresses, because some of you might have moved by now! So, even if you've asked to be on the list before, send me your address again, and I'll make sure you make the list this time around! Deal?

Sooooo...contrary to what I said last issue, I'm going to print a bunch of your super fan art this month! Some of this stuff was sent to Dark Horse over a year ago (!), so I want to give extra-special thanks to the talented artists here for waiting so patiently to show off their work. And as for the rest of you, keep sending me your letters, artwork, and stuff! Every single letter (and there are MANY) gets read here!

See you next month, and remember to pick up *Super Manga Blast!* #1 in four short weeks for more *Oh My Goddess!*

— MikeHI

Fan Art

by Erik Van Y. Burgos
Cavite, Philippines

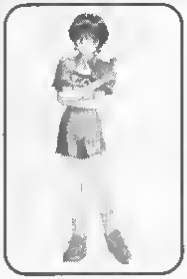
NOTE: All fan artwork submitted becomes the property of Dark Horse Comics and will not be returned!

by Warren Lee
Vancouver, BC, Canada

by Wendy Wan
Den Haag, Holland

by Favio Montoya
Mazatlan, Mexico

Next Issue



In "Hail to the Chief" part 1, a woman suddenly appears at the Auto Club who is dauntingly good at all things automotive. It turns out she is the legendary first manager of the club, and before Keiichi knows it, he s been challenged to a race — one he thinks will determine whether he s qualified to succeed Tamiya as head of the club himself!

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HAIL TO THE CHIEF

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English version produced by Studio Proteus for Dark Horse Comics, Inc.

あああ女神さまっ

Keiichi Morisato

Nekomi Tech student who dialed a wrong number and unwittingly summoned the goddess Belldandy

Belldandy

Goddess First Class (Unlimited) Very loving, very kind.

Urd

Goddess Second Class (Limited) Belldandy's big sister Very sexy, very naughty

Skuld

Goddess Second Class (Limited) Belldandy's little sister Very smart, slightly bratty

The Almighty

Almighty

The story so far:

College student Keiichi Morisato accidentally dialed a wrong number and summoned the goddess Belldandy! After granting Keiichi's wish that she stay with him forever, Belldandy and her sisters, Urd and Skuld, are living with him — and having plenty of misadventures! Now, as head of his school's motor club, Keiichi is about to learn there's more to his job than he thought.

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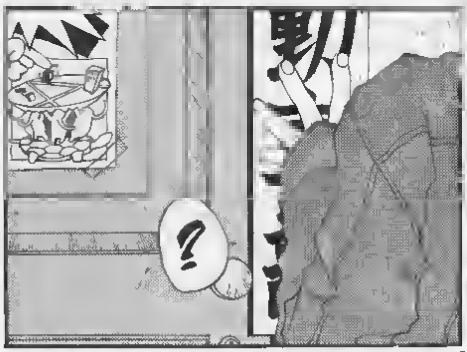
Watch the videos from AnimEigo!

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

SIGN: MOTOR CLUB

YO!
IT'S BEEN AGES

....
HOW ARE YOU DOING, OLD FRIEND?


?

A SOCIAL VENUE FOR GENTLEFOLK
NEW CLUBHOUSE!
WE'VE RELOCATED!
ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE FEMALE GENDER
WE ALWAYS WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
NOTE! SPECIAL SERVICE! EXTRA PERKS! ASK FOR DETAILS IN PERSON!
NEW LOCATION!
CONTACT: HIKICHI MORISATO
A NEW CLUB HOUSE?!

N.I.T.
MCC
ALL RIGHT, TAMIYA AND OTAKI!!!
BAM
WHO GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO MOVE THE CLUB?!
....
....

OOPS.
THAT'S RIGHT... THEY GRADUATED, DIDN'T THEY.
UH... ER...
OHH ?!
IT... IT'S...
BEAUTIFUL!
WHAT A SUPERB RADIO CONTROL MOTOR-CYCLE!
WELL, ACTUALLY... WE'RE GOING TO RIDE IT.
THIS TINY THING ...?
Ahem- WELL, YOU SEE... OUR INTENTION IS TO "EXPLORE THE FULL POTENTIAL OF THE SMALLEST FEASIBLE INTERNAL COMBUSTION PERSONAL PROPULSION SYSTEM."
OH, YEAH?
HEH... WELL, THAT'S WHAT WE TOLD THE GRANT COMMITTEE, ANYWAY!

ACTUALLY, WE JUST THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUN TO SEE IF A PERSON COULD RIDE A BIKE POWERED BY AN RC-TYPE ENGINE.
.....
.....
=mmph=
=mnf=
BOO
BWA HAW HAW!
=mmph!= S-SO SIMPLE? JUST LIKE THAT?!
OH GAWD! I'M DYIN'! HAW HAW
=kof= =kof=

YEAH. THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S *SIMPLE.*
AND WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING SIMPLE AND STRAIGHT-FORWARD? EH?
BECAUSE IT'S FUN.
NOW, *THAT...*
...IS A PERFECTLY GOOD REASON TO DO *ANYTHING.*
....
....
I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY.
I DIDN'T... I MEAN, I WASN'T MAKING FUN OF YOU.
IT'S JUST, ONCE UPON A TIME...
...I KNEW SOMEONE ELSE WHO SAID THE EXACT SAME THING YOU DID. THAT WAS ALL.

I *LIKE* YOU, BOY.
I LIKE THE *FIRE* IN YOUR EYES.
WHAT DO YOU DO IN THE CLUB? AND WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
N...
NEKOMI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MOTOR CLUB DIRECTOR, KEIICHI MORISATO.
I SEE.
YOU, HUH ...?
RIGHT, THEN.

THINK I'LL MAKE ONE OF THESE, TOO.
WILL YOU RACE ME WHEN IT'S DONE?
?!
WH- WHY?
"WHY," YOU ASK?
JUST A LITTLE TEST... OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
"TEST"...? WHAT RIGHT HAVE YOU GOT TO--
I THINK THAT WOULD BE WONDERFUL.
INSTEAD OF JUST ONE BIKE AND ONE DESIGN...
. . . I'M SURE IT WOULD BE MORE FUN TO HAVE TWO.

DIDN'T YOU SAY "BECAUSE IT'S FUN"...
...IS A GOOD ENOUGH REASON TO DO ANYTHING ...?
WELL...
YEAH.
CAN'T SAY "NO" TO THAT SMILE.
HA HA HA HA!
I LOVE IT! YOU GUYS ARE GREAT!
IT MAKES ME WANT TO RACE YOU EVEN MORE.

AND SO WE SHALL-- TWO DAYS FROM NOW.
T- TWO DAYS?!
PAST NEKOMI TECH MOTOR CLUB DIRECTOR...
CHIHIRO FUJIMI.
NICE TO MEET Y'ALL.
THAT DOESN'T WORK FOR YOU...?
WELL... UH... I MEAN...
LOOK-- WHO THE HECK ARE YOU?
OH, RIGHT.
SORRY. I DIDN'T SAY, DID I?
WHA--
NO WAY!

ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE NEKOMI TECH MOTOR CLUB..
MISS FUJIMI TOOK THE ENFEEBLED AND USELESS NEKOMI TECH AUTOMOBILE FAN CLUB UNDER HER CONTROL...
.. AND SWIFTLY RESTRUCTURED IT INTO THE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION WE NOW KNOW AS THE N.I.T. MOTOR CLUB...
..THUS BECOMING THE EFFECTIVE FOUNDER AND FIRST DIRECTOR ALL IN ONE
SINCE GRADUATION SHE'S BEEN ON THE RACING TEAM OF A LEADING MOTORCYCLE MANUFACTURER..
...IT SAYS HERE.
GACK! WE'RE GOING UP AGAINST A REAL PRO?!
B-BOSS... YOU REALLY THINK YOU AND US CAN BEAT HER...?
WHO KNOWS?
I DUNNO...
IT'S JUST...

I *REALLY* FEEL LIKE RACING WITH HER NOW.
POWER BUSTER.
GOING UP AGAINST THE FOUNDER AND FIRST DIRECTOR OF THE CLUB... YEAH.
IN THAT CASE, LET'S PLAN A *BIG* CELEBRATION FOR IF WE WIN!
YAHOO!
I'LL BAKE UP MY *SPECIAL* TRIPLE-LAYER CAKE! ❤
A *TEST,* SHE SAID.

"CHECKING IF I'M QUALIFIED TO LEAD THE CLUB, PERHAPS ...?"
klik
VREEEE
VRMBB
VRMMMMMMMM
KRAUSER
OKAY, TAMIYA... OTAKI.
I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE. COME ON OUT.
....
....
KSH

YOUSE GOT IT WRONG, MIZ DIRECTOR SIR MA'AM.
YEAH, WE'VE BEEN LOOKIN' ALL OVER FOR YOU!
....
....
"LOOKING ALL OVER," HERE IN THESE BUSHES, HUH?
IT GIVES ME THE CREEPS WHEN YOU TWO TRY TO ACT INNOCENT. SO CUT IT OUT.
I MUST SAY IT SEEMS YOU'VE FOUND SOME VERY CAPABLE PEOPLE.
BUT ENOUGH OF THAT.

LOOKS LIKE I'LL REALLY HAVE TO THROW MYSELF INTO THE FIGHT.
THANKS, GUYS. YOU DID GOOD.
...!
PRAISE! WORDS OF PRAISE FROM OUR GREAT LEADER!
sniff
OH, RIGHT... ALMOST FORGOT.
ABOUT MOVING THE CLUB WITHOUT MY PERMISSION ...?
I'LL LISTEN TO YOUR PATHETIC EXCUSES LATER.
AAH... SUCH KINDNESS AND BENEVOLENCE FROM THE LADY FUJIMI...!
TWO DAYS LATER
THAP THAP

BRUPP
SKREEK
BRAPPABRAPPA
ALL RIGHT! TWO CIRCUITS AROUND THE CAMPUS!
WIN OR LOSE..
...BOTH RACERS, WATCH OUT FOR PEDESTRIANS!
READY!
SET!
GO!

RRRAAAAAAAAAAPPPPPPAAA
GO BOSS!
CAKE! CAKE!
GIVE IT YOUR BEST, BOTH OF YOU...!
BUT
I'M STILL ROOTING FOR MY DEAR KEIICHI.
YO WI!
WHAZZAT?!
NOT THE DAMN MOTOR CLUB AGAIN?!
LOOK AT HER PULL AHEAD!
WHAT DID SHE DO?! BLUEPRINT THE DARN ENGINE?!

RRAAAA
GO, BOSS!
CAKE! CAKE!
GIVE IT YOUR BEST, BOTH OF YOU...!
BUT...
...I'M STILL ROOTING FOR MY DEAR KEIICHI.

PPPPPAA
YOW!!
WHAZZAT!?
NOT THE DAMN MOTOR CLUB AGAIN?!
LOOK AT HER PULL AHEAD!
WHAT DID SHE DO?! BLUEPRINT THE DARN ENGINE?!

BRAAAP
FWISSH
SHK
VRAAAA
♫ WAY TO GO, BOY-- NICKED THE WALL!!

YEEP! TOO CLOSE!
MAYBE I'M PUSHING A BIT TOO HARD...?
KE!!CHI!!!
DO YOUR BEST!!
THE RACE HAS JUST BEGUN!!
YEAH!
THANKS, BELL!
HMM... IF THAT DOESN'T PUT SOME FIRE IN YOUR BELLY, NOTHING WILL, MY BOY!
HUH?
WAIT A SEC... WASN'T SHE JUST AT THE STARTING LINE...?

GO, KEIICHI!!
HEY?! NO WAY!
DON'T GIVE UP!
WELL, I'M GONNA GIVE UP THINKING ABOUT IT!
AND YET... AS THEY ENTERED THE SECOND CIRCUIT, BELLDANDY'S ENTHUSIASTIC CHEERLEADING WAS SO FAR ALL FOR NAUGHT.
AH! THERE SHE IS!
BUT EVEN SO, KEIICHI DID NOT LOSE HOPE.
IT'S ALL RIGHT... DON'T PANIC...
JUST KEEP UP THE PACE.
IT'S NOT AS IF I DIDN'T GUESS YOU'D TUNE YOUR ENGINE TO THE MAX.
BUT TUNING IS A BALANCING ACT...
...BETWEEN POWER AND ENDURANCE.
KCHAK
AND IF YOU'RE GETTING THAT MUCH PEAK BHP*... SOMEWHERE, SOMETIME, YOU'RE GONNA BREAK DOWN!

* BRAKE HORSEPOWER

ABSOLUTELY!
WELL, PROBABLY...
RRG... HURRY UP AND BLOW, ALREADY!!
!?
HAH! GOTCHA!
HUH?
NO WAY!
A SPARE ENGINE ...?!

BRUPPP
VRAAAAAA
ARGH! I'VE BEEN *TRICKED!* AN *ENGINE CHANGE!*
TRUE, THE RULES DON'T *PROHIBIT* IT....
...BUT WHO'D HAVE *DREAMED* SHE COULD DO IT FAST ENOUGH TO EVEN MAKE IT WORTH-WHILE?
COME ON, KID! NOW THE RACE *REALLY* BEGINS!

EH?
THE LAST CORNER ALREADY?!
FINISH
NOW!!
BRAKE!

W-
WHOA!!
THE
BOSS!
HE'S
AHEAD!!
YOU DID
GOOD
KID
BUT...
DARN
DARN
DARN!
I STAYED
ON THE
BRAKE TOO
LONG!
THE
CHECKERED
FLAG
ANOINTS
THE
VICTOR...

...AND SALUTES ALL WHO FOUGHT SO BRAVELY.
YOU WERE WONDERFUL... BOTH OF YOU.
WELL, MORISATO...
THANKS.
YOU GAVE ME SOME GOOD THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR A CHANGE.

"WAY BACK WHEN, I SPENT EVERY DAY COVERED IN OIL.
ALL KINDS OF THINGS...
"MY ORDINARY FRIENDS ALL WORRIED ABOUT ME."
CHIHIRO! WHY ARE YOU SPENDING ALL THIS TIME AND EFFORT ON THAT SILLY FAN CLUB?
HEY, BECAUSE IT'S *FUN!*
"I GUESS I NEVER THOUGHT I'D HEAR THOSE WORDS AGAIN."
BECAUSE IT'S FUN.

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHAT ABOUT THE TEST...?
"TEST" ...?
YOU PASSED THAT TEST THE DAY I MET YOU.
THIS TEST WAS FOR *ME*.
DON'T TELL ME I FAILED AND HAVE TO QUIT THE MOTOR CLUB...
OH, PUH-*LEASE!* DON'T BE SILLY.
AND THANKS TO YOU, I'VE MADE UP MY MIND.
I'M GOING TO QUIT THE TEAM, AND START MAKING THE KIND OF BIKES *I* WANT TO MAKE.
NOT AS A WAY OF *WINNING*.
BUT JUST AS A WAY OF *HAVING FUN*.

YES... YES!
HUH?
YES!! THAT'S IT! THAT'S PERFECT!
THAT'S WHAT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO, TOO!
WELL, KEIICHI...
...SOMEHOW I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT.
?! HEY!
WHAT?
UH?
:sob: THEY ATE IT ALL!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU'D STILL JUST BE A PAIR OF GREEDY SLOBS!!

NEXT ISSUE: "FOREVER GRRLS"

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA'S

Oh My Goddess!

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lettering and re-touch by
SUSIE LEE and PC ORZ

cover by
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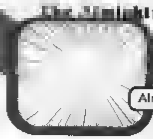

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FOREVER GRRLS

MCC
COME ON, EVERY-BODY! TODAY WE'RE GONNA...
...CLEAN THE OLD MOTOR CLUB CLUB-HOUSE!
WHAT'S WRONG?! WHY THE LONG FACES?
WELL...
'CAUSE OF THE SHORT MONEY.
HUH ...?

HEY-- ALL THE MORE REASON TO CLEAN UP!
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
BECAUSE, KIDDO, WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT TURN UP!
MAYBE... JUST MAYBE...
...THERE MIGHT BE TREASURE!
SIMPLE HEARTS, SIMPLE MINDS.

OH...
I NEARLY FORGOT.
TAMIYA! OTAKI! YOU HELP, TOO!
ulp!
YES, LADY CHIHIRO!!
HEE HEE
HMM... I DON'T GET IT.
WHY ARE THOSE BIG LUGS SO AFRAID OF CHIHIRO?
I WANT TO ASK HER, BUT...
..WHAT IF SHE'S THE SORT OF WOMAN WHO CAN KNOCK OUT A BEAR WITH A SINGLE PUNCH?
AS THE SAYING GOES...
AND YET... I STILL WANT TO.
THEN AGAIN...

KEIICHI, WATCH YOUR STEP, ALL RIGHT?
COME ON! FASTER, FASTER!
Moving
MAX
SURE, SURE.
≥sigh≤ THERE'S NOTHING VALUABLE HERE AT ALL.
million
YOU THINK SO...? TO ME, EVERYTHING LOOKS SO WONDERFUL.
EVERY PIECE PACKED WITH THE SCRAPS OF DREAMS...

OH, MY ...?
ISN'T THAT ...?
KTAK
WHAT?! D-DID YOU ACTUALLY FIND SOME-THING?!
YES.
A PIGGY BANK!
WOW!
WOW. ¥325
...
A BIT ON THE LOW SIDE.

HMM... MAYBE CHIHIRO WAS JUST LEADING US ON?
YAHG!
EPSON
PRINTER
CHAK
SKSSH
SPY
YEEP!
whewf!≡ THAT WAS CLOSE!
KYAK

POIK
YAIEE!
IT FIGURES!
KEIICHI ?!
WHD
S'OKAY. NO PROB.
OWW
HUH ...?
OH ...!
H-HEY... IT LOOKS LIKE...
...A TREASURE MAP ...?!

ORG?!
HEY... ISN'T THAT--
BACK TO WORK, YOU TWO. NOW.
HUP-HO! HUP-HO!
SEE? YOU DID FIND SOME-THING GOOD!
WELL, UH, MAYBE. WE DON'T KNOW IT'S A TREASURE MAP...

NO... SHE'S RIGHT.
I CAN SENSE FROM THIS MAP THAT SOMETHING IMPORTANT *IS* HIDDEN HERE.
HMM... THAT GIRL SAYS THE STRANGEST THINGS SOME-TIMES...
ALL RIGHT! IF THAT'S THE CASE, LET'S DECODE IT!
YEAH!!

DIS... DIS IS *BAD.*
HEY, WE HID IT THERE OURSELVES, RIGHT?
YEAH!! SO WE JUS' GOTTA GO GEDDIT *FOIST!*
RIGHT! SO-- WHERE IS IT?!
YUH DON' REMEMBUH ...?
YOU, EITHER ...?
...

....
....
37421
143586
451327869
91243876
751439
143586
751439
7216349
58927
143586
YEESH ...!
THIS MAP DOESN'T TELL US WHERE TO START, OR THE GOAL!

ALL THESE NUMBERS...
SAY! MAYBE IT'S THE NUMBER OF STEPS TO TAKE?
C'MON! EVEN IF YOU COULD WALK THE FIRST THIRTY-THOUSAND STEPS...
...WHAT ABOUT THE NEXT FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE MILLION?
OH YEAH RIGHT
DID YOU FIND ANY-THING, SORA?
NOT REALLY, BUT... LET'S ADD THEM UP.
LET'S SEE...
THIRTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE, PLUS...
ONE HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX, PLUS...
FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT...
HEY!
D-DON'T TELL ME--?!
WHAT? WHAT?!

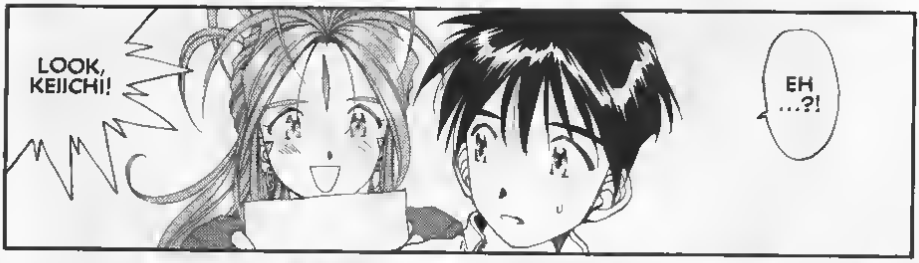
THIS CALCULATOR DOESN'T GO THAT HIGH.
JUST EIGHT DIGITS
HMM... IN *THAT* CASE, IT MEANS...
THE TOTAL IS FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND AND SEVENTY-EIGHT.
OOOOOOOOH!
...I *REALLY* DON'T UNDER-STAND.
OH, SORA... NOT AGAIN!
NUMCC
SAY... WHY NOT JUST LOOK FOR A MATCH ON THE CAMPUS MAP...?
GOOD IDEA!

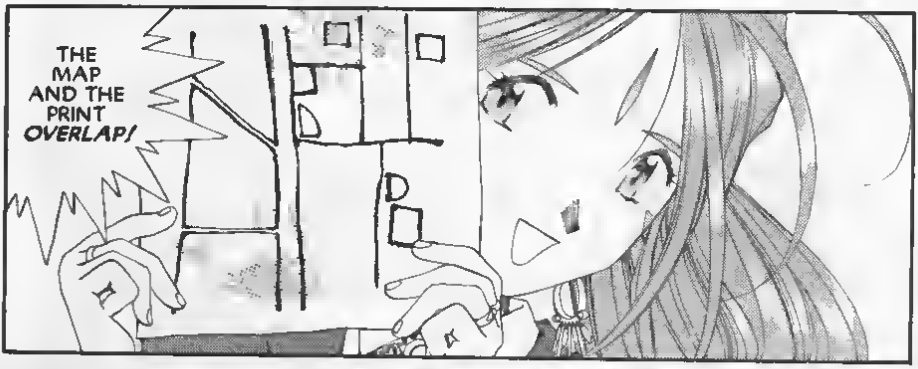
WH...
WHAT THE HECK?!
....
....
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? THIS MAP DOESN'T TELL YOU WHERE TO START.
YEAH. AND WHAT DO YOU DO WITH THESE NUMBERS?
IT'S, LIKE, A TREASURE MAP!
COOL!
IF WE FIND IT, WE'LL SPLIT IT FIFTY-FIFTY, 'KAY?

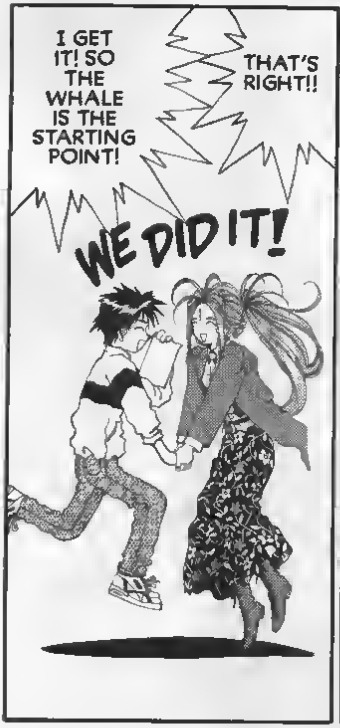
HOW DID *THIS* HAPPEN?
STEP RIGHT UP!
JUST FIVE BUCKS A COPY!
T'ANKS A HEAP, PAL!
WELL, I GUESS FOR FIVE BUCKS...
JEEZ... EVEN IF WE DONE IT WHEN WE WAS DRUNK...
YEAH... WHO'D A' THOUGHT WE'D *FORGET?*
IN ANY CASE, DIS WAY WE GETS SOMEONE ELSE TUH FIND IT...
...AND THEN WE TAKE IT BACK BEFORE THEY OPEN THE BOX.
PLUS, DUH SALES MONEY IS ALL OURS, HEH, HEH!
OUR "EVIL MASTER PLAN" IS *PERFECT!*
COOL WE'RE LIKE THE BAD GUYS IN A SAMURAI MOVIE

RATS!
RATS!!
BLACK
NO...
NO...
CALM
DOWN...
HOW ABOUT DIFFERENTIAL CRYPTANALYSIS? IF IT'S SYMMETRIC DES ALGORITHMS...
AND NOT IDEA™ OR CAST...
NO WAY IT'S THAT HARD!
YOU'RE LOSING IT, KIDDO.
BESIDES, THEY'RE NOT GOING TO FIND IT THAT EASILY, ANYWAY.
WHO EVEN SAID THE MAP SHOWS THIS CAMPUS?
THEN... THEN WE CAN'T FIND IT, EITHER ...?
WELL, uh... MAYBE NOT.
HMM... IT MUST BE TAMIYA AND OTAKI SELLING THOSE MAPS.
LATER THEY SHALL REQUIRE... DISCIPLINE.
GLEEP! THEN SHE REALLY CAN PUNCH OUT A BEAR! TWO BEARS!

BUT WHY ARE TAMIYA AND OTAKI SO AFRAID OF YOU, MISS FUJIMI?
OH, THAT ...?
OH, *VERY* SUBTLE, SORA HASE-GAWA!
MY DEAR...
YES, MA'AM?!
THERE ARE MORE THINGS IN HEAVEN AND EARTH, HASEGAWA, THAN ARE DREAMT OF IN YOUR PHILOSOPHY.
HUH?
WHAT?!
TAK TAK
OH ...?!


LOOK, KEIICHI!
EH ...?!

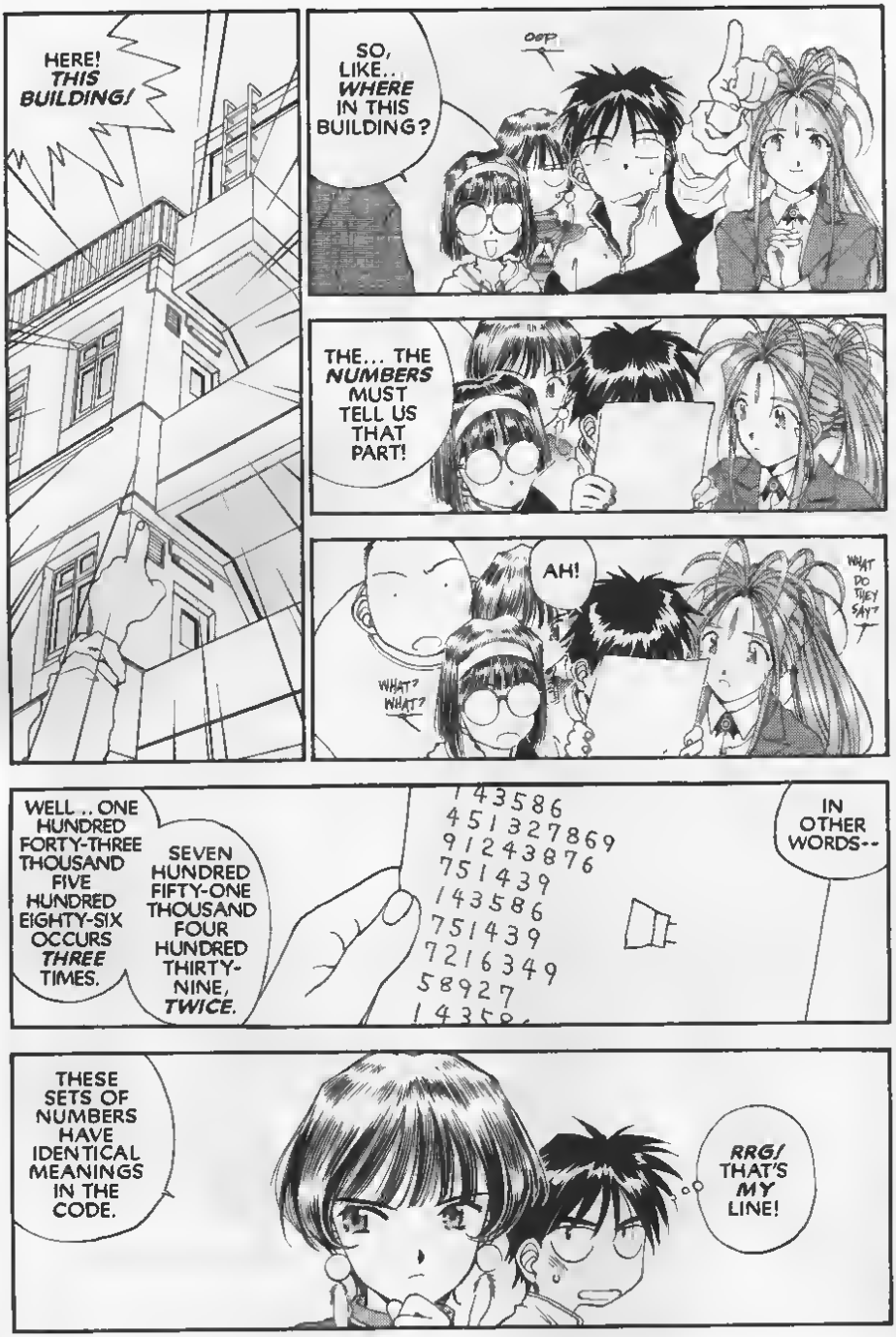

THE MAP AND THE PRINT OVERLAP!


I GET IT! SO THE WHALE IS THE STARTING POINT!
THAT'S RIGHT!!
WE DID IT!

SO WHERE IS THERE A WHALE ON CAMPUS ...?
UM... ??
I KNOW.

AND SO SHOULD YOU!

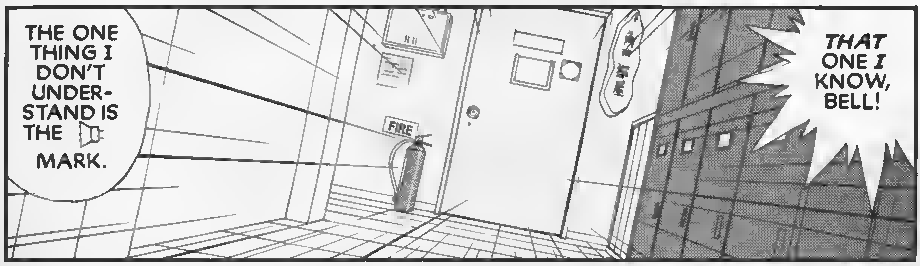
SEE?
JEEZ! HOW COULD I FORGET?!
GREAT! NOW THAT WE KNOW WHERE TO START... WE'RE HOME FREE!

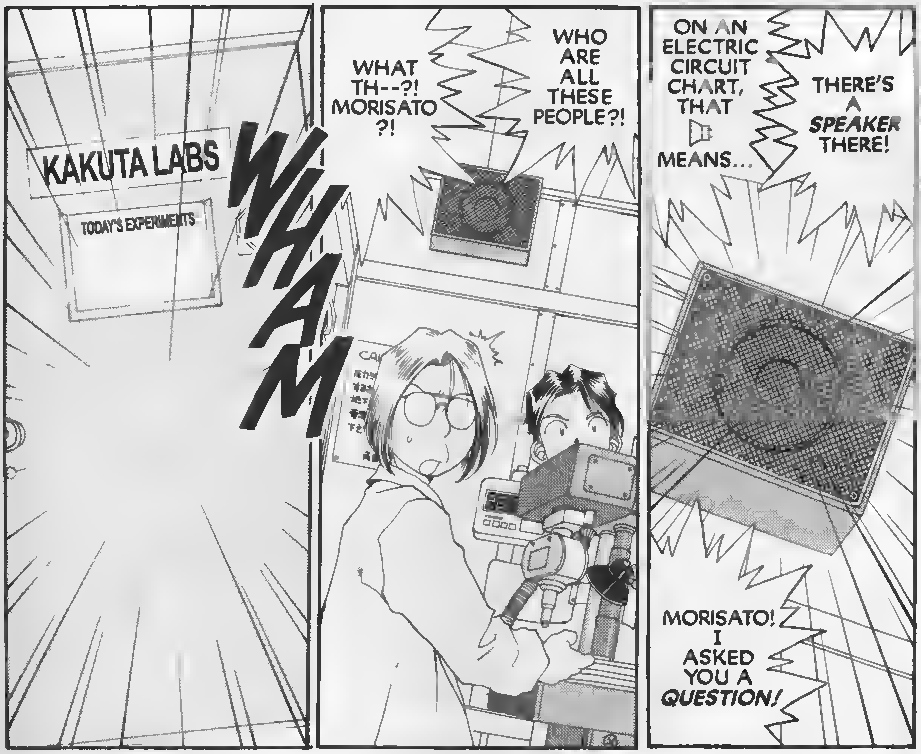

HERE! THIS BUILDING!
SO, LIKE... WHERE IN THIS BUILDING?
OOP
THE... THE NUMBERS MUST TELL US THAT PART!
AH!
WHAT? WHAT?
WHAT DO THEY SAY?
WELL .. ONE HUNDRED FORTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX OCCURS THREE TIMES.
SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE, TWICE.
143586
4513278 69
91243876
751439
143586
751439
7216349
58927
IN OTHER WORDS--
THESE SETS OF NUMBERS HAVE IDENTICAL MEANINGS IN THE CODE.
RRG! THAT'S MY LINE!

AH!
OF COURSE!
SMAK
I REMEMBER THIS FROM WHEN I WAS A KID!
LOOK AT THIS, MISTER MORISATO!
WHEN YOU PUT IN 7, 5, 1, 4, 3, 9...
AND THEN LOOK AT IT UPSIDE DOWN, THEY LOOK LIKE LETTERS! SEE?
SORA! YOU'RE INCREDI-BLE!
AHEM
SO HOW DO YOU READ IT?
ER... "GEH... HEE... ZLL" ...? ???
IT DOESN'T MEAN A DARN THING!

....
....
SORA, MAY I BORROW THAT?
SURE... HERE.
?
7, 5, 1, 4, 3, 9... AH. I THOUGHT SO.
beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
HERE-- LOOK AT THE POSITION OF THE KEYS I PUNCHED.
7 8 9
4 5 6
1 2 3
DOESN'T THAT LOOK LIKE THE LETTER "K"...?
OHH!!
SO LET US START AGAIN, FROM THE TOP!
3, 7, 4, 2, 1...
THAT MAKES AN "L".
APPLIED CRYPTOGRAPHY 101
with Professor Belldandy

LABOKAKUTA


AND SO, WHEN YOU DECIPHER ALL OF IT...
THE ONE THING I DON'T UNDER-STAND IS THE MARK.
FIRE
THAT ONE I KNOW, BELL!

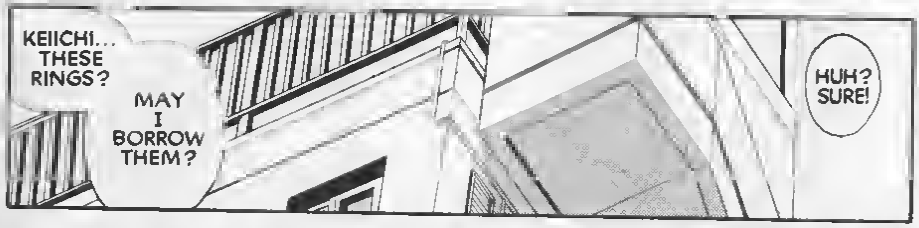

KAKUTA LABS
TODAY'S EXPERIMENTS
WHAM
WHAT TH--?! MORISATO ?!
WHO ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE?!
ON AN ELECTRIC CIRCUIT CHART, THAT MEANS...
THERE'S A SPEAKER THERE!
MORISATO! I ASKED YOU A QUESTION!

YAHOO!
HERE IT IS!
WE DID IT!
BUT... IT'S LOCKED.
UH-OH!
OH...? THIS DRAWING ...!
I THINK I CAN OPEN THIS.
REALLY ?!

THREE... TWO...
FIVE!
KCHIK
IT'S OPEN!
LEMME SEE!
TWO... RINGS?
....!

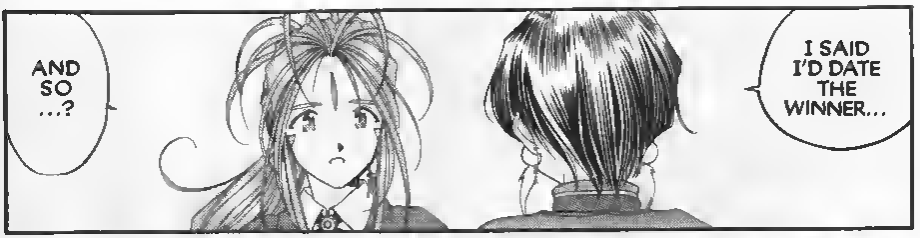
SLAM
!?
MISS CHIHIRO ...?
OH...
HUMPH. DOESN'T LOOK LIKE WE'LL MAKE MUCH MONEY FROM THESE.
AND YET...

...THEY GLOW WITH LOVE.

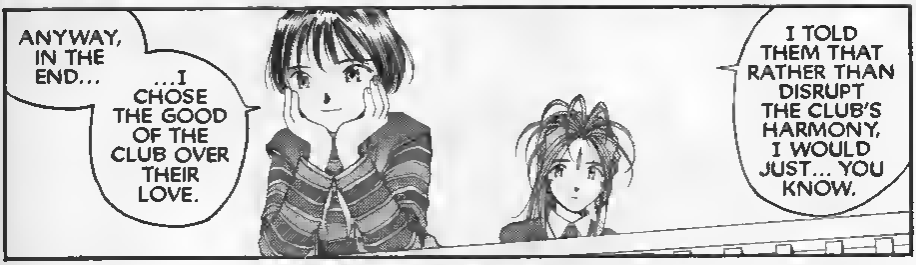

KEIICHI... THESE RINGS?
MAY I BORROW THEM?
HUH? SURE!

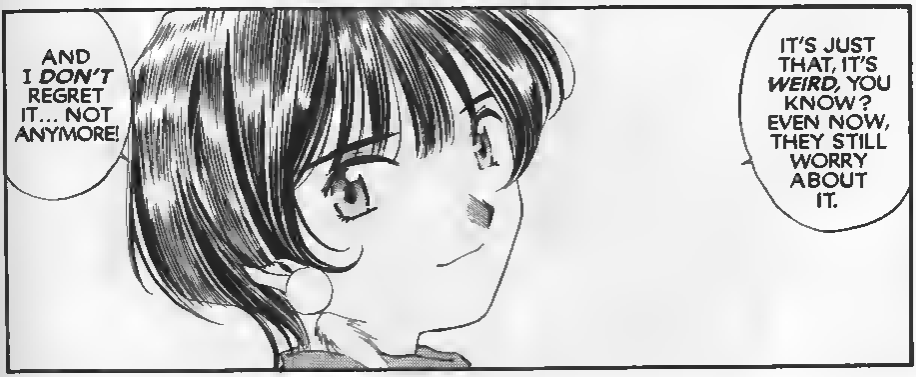
MISS CHIHIRO ...?
....

THESE ARE *YOURS*... AREN'T THEY?
YOUR NAME'S ENGRAVED INSIDE.
ONIHIRO
IS IT ALL SO CLEAR TO YOU?
HEH... HOW EMBAR-RASSING.
THOSE RINGS... TWO DIFFERENT MEN GAVE THEM TO ME, SEE?
BUT I'M SO CRUEL... *SIGH.*
I COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN THEM.


AND SO ...?
I SAID I'D DATE THE WINNER...

...AND THEN I MADE THEM PLAY "STRIP" *SCISSORS, PAPER, STONE* UNTIL THEY WERE *BUCK NAKED!*
EEK!
...!


ANYWAY, IN THE END...
...I CHOSE THE GOOD OF THE CLUB OVER THEIR LOVE.
I TOLD THEM THAT RATHER THAN DISRUPT THE CLUB'S HARMONY, I WOULD JUST... YOU KNOW.

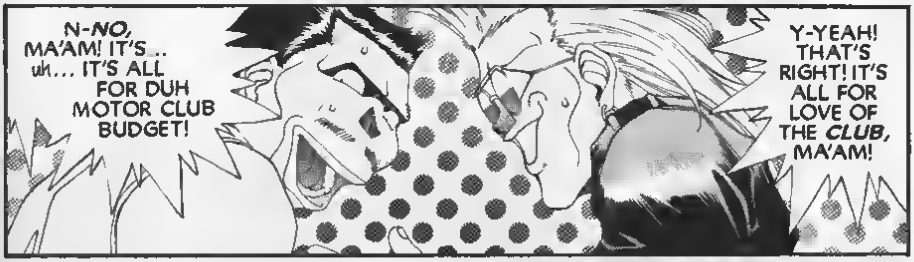

AND I *DON'T* REGRET IT... NOT ANYMORE!
IT'S JUST THAT, IT'S *WEIRD*, YOU KNOW? EVEN NOW, THEY STILL WORRY ABOUT IT.

SO THEY GET ALL GOOFY WHEN THEY'RE AROUND ME.
I GUESS THEY'RE WORRIED SOME-ONE'LL FIND OUT.
THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE WRONG.
IT'S BECAUSE THEY STILL LOVE YOU.
SEE THIS RING KEIICHI GAVE ME...?
SHINNGG
AND THESE TWO RINGS-- THEY *RESONATE.*

WHAT THOSE TWO FEAR NOW ISN'T *YOU*, CHIHIRO.
IT'S *THEMSELVES*. THEY FEAR THAT THEY CAN'T CONTROL THEIR FEELINGS FOR YOU.
HEH... AN INCURABLE ROMANTIC...
...AREN'T YOU?
YES. I'M A *GIRL*, SO...

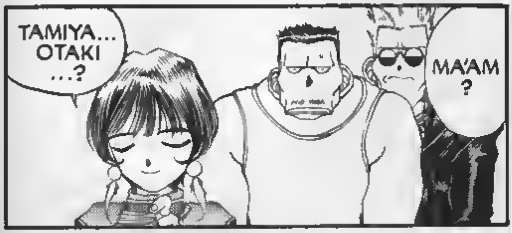
....
....
WELL, I'M A BIT OLD TO BE A "GIRL."
REALLY? BUT HOW OLD CAN YOU BE...
...AND STILL BE A GIRL-- AT HEART?
....
"ONE-LOVE"...! GAME, SET AND MATCH TO BELL-DANDY!
HA HA HA
....
....
TAMIYA!
OTAKI!
ULP!
WE DONE PASSED OUT SO MANY OF DEM MAPS....
YEAH! WE WON'T KNOW *WHO'S* GONNA FIND THEM!

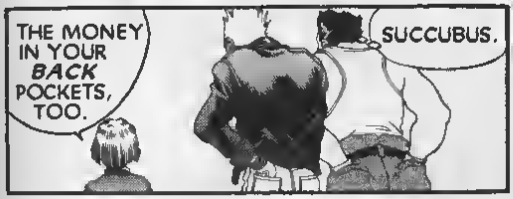
LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE DONE WELL...
...FOR YOUR-SELVES.


N-NO, MA'AM! IT'S .. uh... IT'S ALL FOR DUH MOTOR CLUB BUDGET!
Y-YEAH! THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S ALL FOR LOVE OF THE CLUB, MA'AM!

REALLY? THEN I'LL HOLD ON TO IT, SHALL I?
=sigh= YES'M.

OH... ONE MORE THING.
YOU GOT IT ALL, WE SWEAR!


TAMIYA... OTAKI ...?
MA'AM ?


THE MONEY IN YOUR BACK POCKETS, TOO.
SUCCUBUS.

NO-- THESE.
I'LL KEEP THESE AS... TROPHIES OF WAR.
GOOD...
IDEA...
...
...

NEXT ISSUE: "LIVE TO WORK, WORK TO LIVE!"